ATLAS

JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY

JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY

AUG.

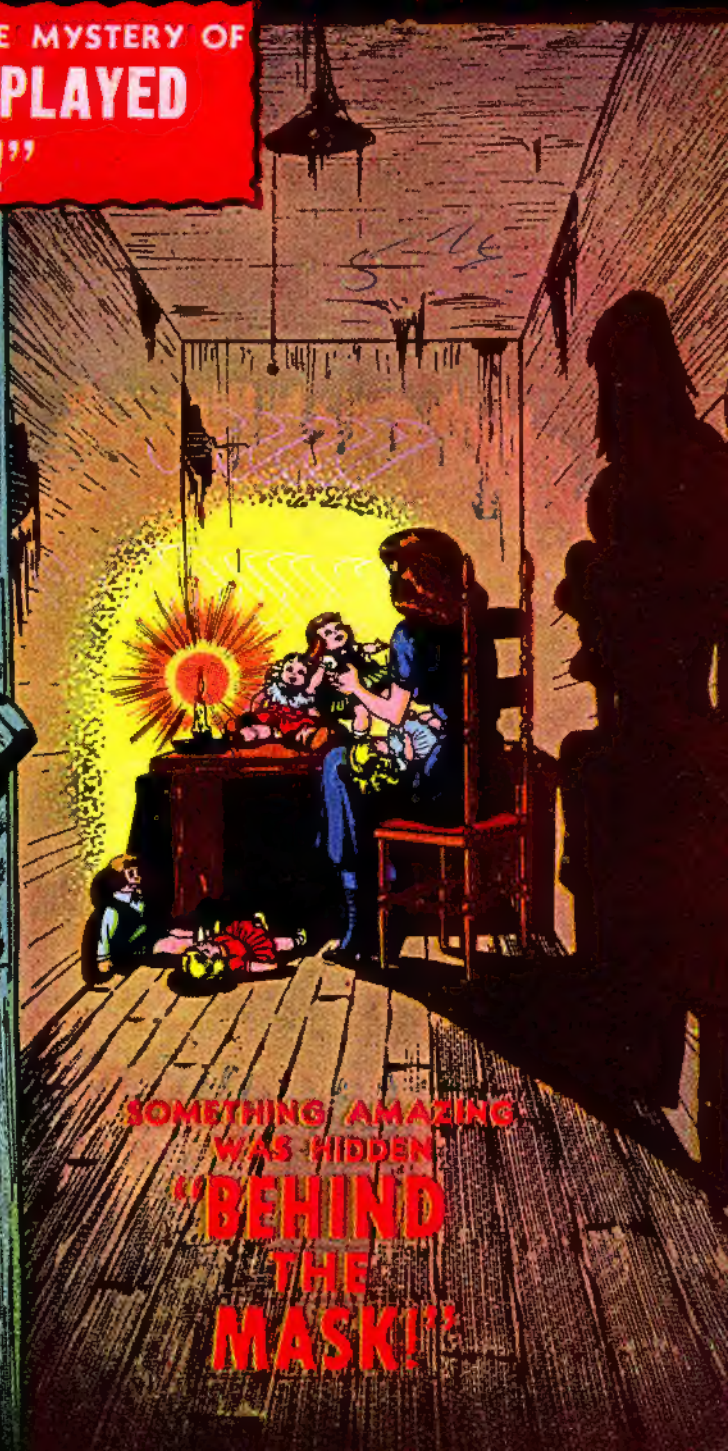
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

NO. 48

10¢

CAN YOU SOLVE THE STRANGE MYSTERY OF

"THE WOMAN WHO PLAYED WITH DOLLS!"



SOMETHING AMAZING WAS HIDDEN

"BEHIND THE MASK!"

IDENTIFY EVEN THE STRANGEST STAMPS—*at a glance!*

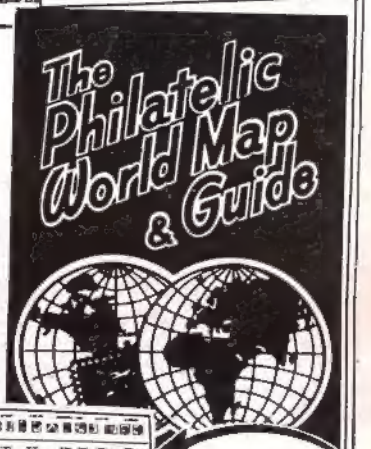
Now, no stamp need puzzle you—no matter how strange it looks. Look at the Oriental script on the enlarged stamp at left. How could you possibly tell what country it comes from. But with the stamp identifier at your side—you merely match the stamps with one illustrated and you instantly know that it comes from Jordan.

Free

1 **WORLD MAP**
authentic Mercator projection map, used by air and sea navigators.

2 **STAMP FINDER**
identifies stamps around the world — no matter how strange their script letters.

3 **ENCYCLOPEDIA OF STAMP-ISSUING COUNTRIES**
Tells area, location, population, parent country, etc.



Valuable Stamp Collector's Reference Map and Guide Offered FREE to Get Names for Our Mailing List

THIS GIANT world map and stamp guide is a treasure chest of valuable information. Locates the tiniest, most remote stamp issuing countries in the world. Deciphers the strangest script on the face of stamps — and tells you at a glance just what country issued them.

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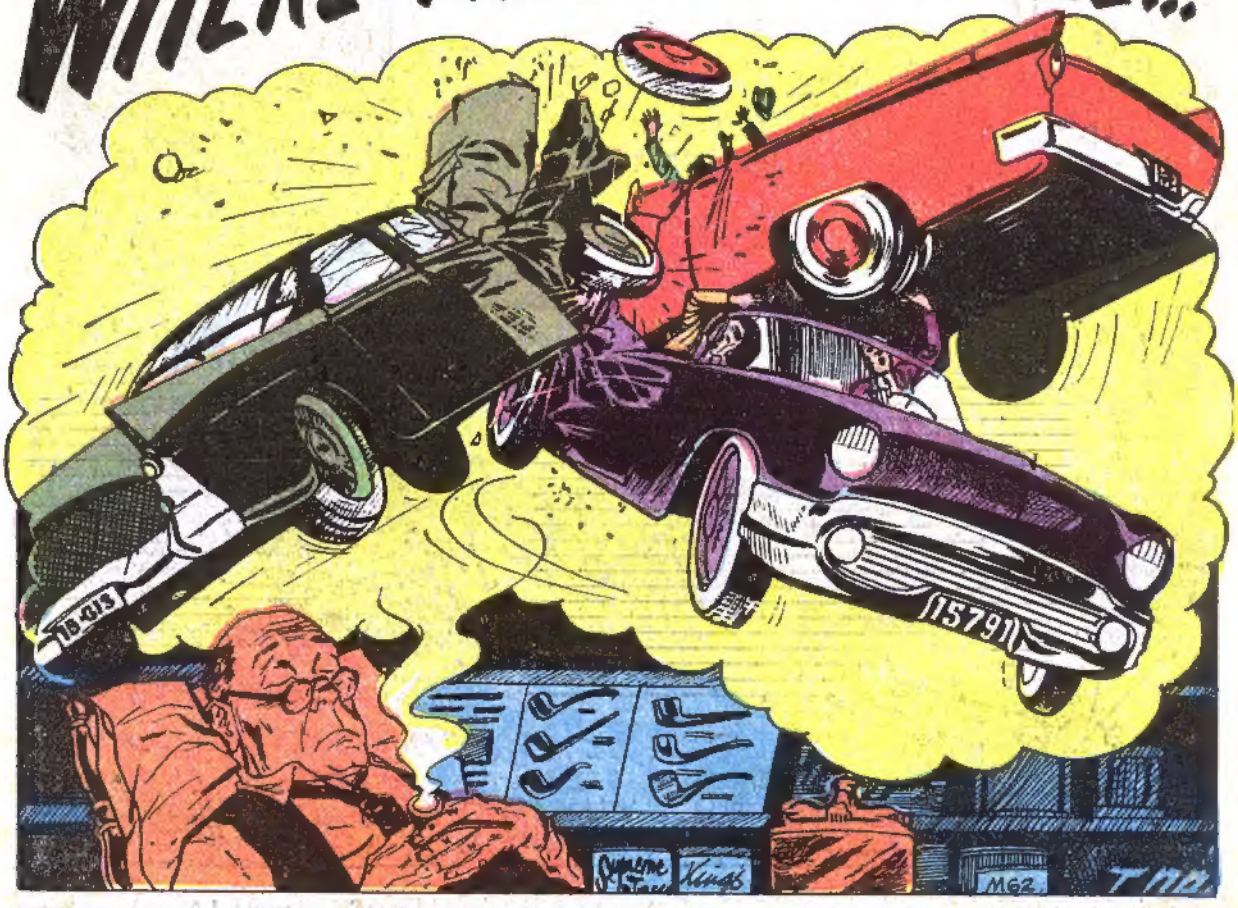
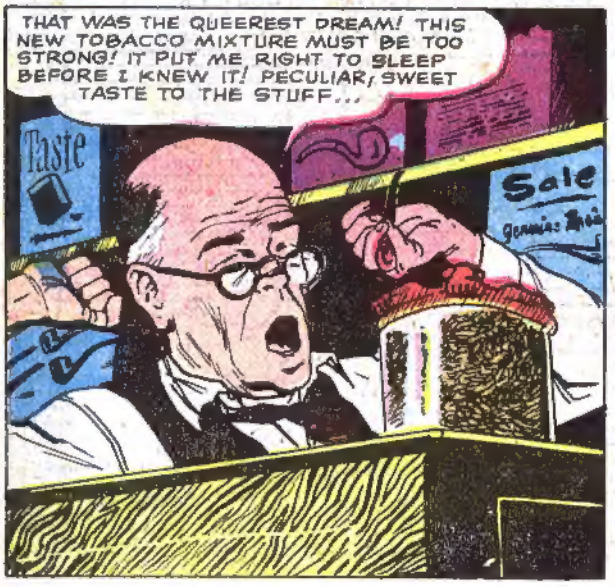
THEY SAY THAT DREAMS NEVER COME TRUE...BUT EMIL HAD PROOF TO THE CONTRARY! HOWEVER IN ***HIS*** CASE, HE WOULD'VE BEEN MUCH BETTER OFF IF HIS STRANGE DREAMS HAD NO BEARING ON REALITY!

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE...




THAT WAS THE QUEEREST DREAM! THIS NEW TOBACCO MIXTURE MUST BE TOO STRONG! IT PUT ME RIGHT TO SLEEP BEFORE I KNEW IT! PECULIAR, SWEET TASTE TO THE STUFF...
Taste
Sale

BUT THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED IN MY DREAM! THE SAME CARS... IN THE SAME WAY... IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! DREAMS JUST DON'T COME TRUE!
SMOKER
1

FOR A LONG TIME, EMIL KOJER STARED DOWN AT HIS NEW, EXPERIMENTAL TOBACCO MIXTURE! HE REALIZED THAT WHAT HE WAS THINKING WAS NONSENSE...AND YET..

IT *DID* TASTE STRANGE! AND IT *DID* PUT ME TO SLEEP! LET'S TRY ANOTHER SMOKE...

THE MATCH SPUTTERED AS HE PUT IT TO THE PIPE BOWL! HE DREW IN DEEPLY AND SAVORED THE FULL, RICH ORIENTAL SWEETNESS...

AN ORDINARY TOBACCO WOULDN'T PUT ME TO SLEEP! THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE...I-I CAN HARDLY KEEP MY EYES OPEN...

OF COURSE, IT WAS JUST ANOTHER CRAZY DREAM! WHO DOESN'T DREAM OF LOTS OF MONEY? BUT WHEN KOJER AWOKE...

I'M GOING MAD! THAT'S WHAT IT IS! I'M LOSING MY SENSES! HOW COULD AN ACCIDENTAL TOBACCO MIXTURE...? YET, THERE IT IS! THE MONEY'S *REAL!*

IT MUST BE SOMETHING IN THIS NEW LATAKIA! AND THE UNUSUAL MIXTURE I MADE WITH THE OTHER TOBACCOS! IF IT WORKS EVERY TIME, I CAN DREAM MYSELF RICH... AND GREAT!

Oasis

New, pure Latakia grown in a desert oasis in the shadow of the Pharaohs' Tombs

WILD THOUGHTS SIMMERED IN EMIL KOJER'S MIND! HE FILLED HIS OWN POUCH WITH THE NEW TOBACCO AND HID THE BALANCE OF THE MIXTURE...

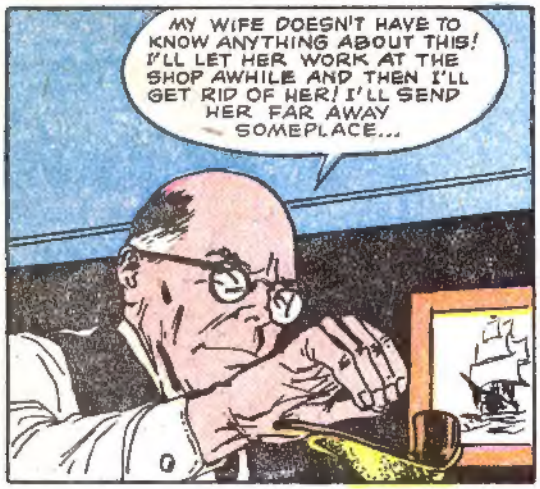
WHO'S THERE? OH, IT'S *YOU!*

GOOD THING I GOT RID OF THE MONEY! MY WIFE MUSTN'T KNOW ABOUT IT!

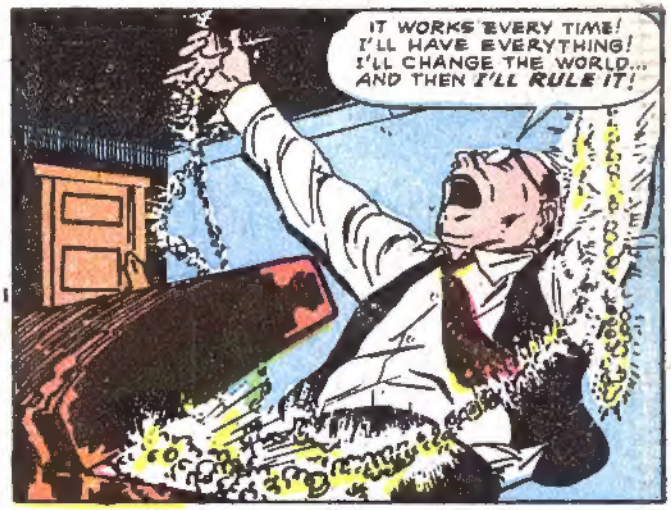
AND SEE THAT YOU DO A GOOD JOB! I MAY BE BACK LATE THIS EVENING...I'VE GOT IMPORTANT BUSINESS TO TEND TO!

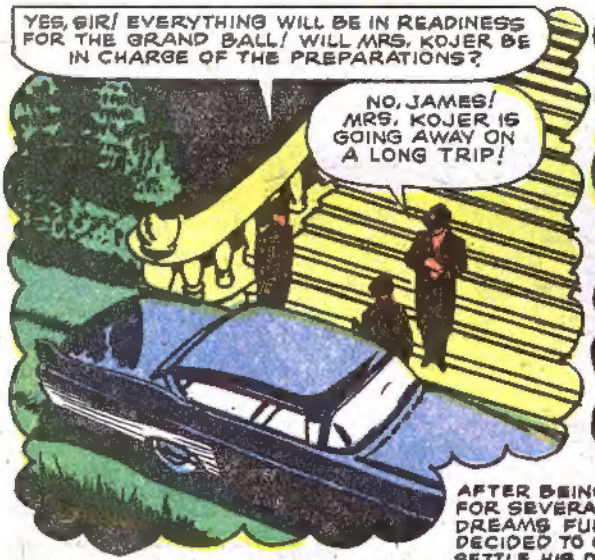
YES, EMIL? I-I'M SORRY I WAS LATE!

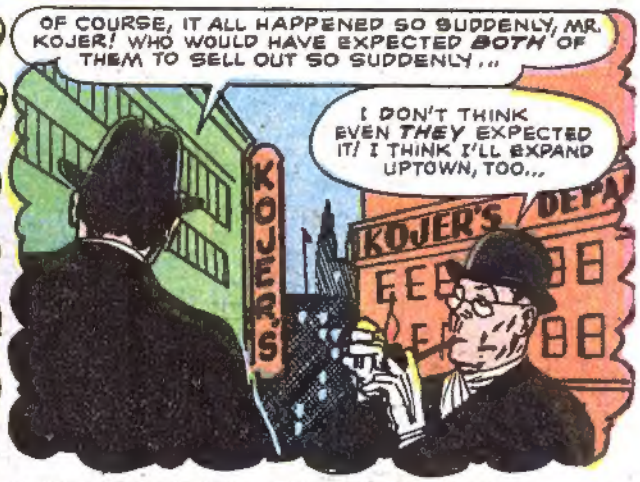
EMIL MADE HIS WAY HOME QUICKLY WHERE HE COULD BE ALONE TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF MAKING SOME OF HIS LONG-DESIRED WISHES COME TRUE...


MY WIFE DOESN'T HAVE TO KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THIS! I'LL LET HER WORK AT THE SHOP AWHILE AND THEN I'LL GET RID OF HER! I'LL SEND HER FAR AWAY SOMEPLACE...

A PIPE FILLED WITH TOBACCO MADE OF ORIENTAL MIXTURES, A FEW LONG PUFFS... A DREAM OF WEALTH... AND THEN...




YES, SIR! EVERYTHING WILL BE IN READINESS FOR THE GRAND BALL! WILL MRS. KOJER BE IN CHARGE OF THE PREPARATIONS?
NO, JAMES! MRS. KOJER IS GOING AWAY ON A LONG TRIP!


OF COURSE, IT ALL HAPPENED SO SUDDENLY, MR. KOJER! WHO WOULD HAVE EXPECTED BOTH OF THEM TO SELL OUT SO SUDDENLY...
I DON'T THINK EVEN THEY EXPECTED IT! I THINK I'LL EXPAND UPTOWN, TOO...
KOJER'S
KOJER'S DEPA

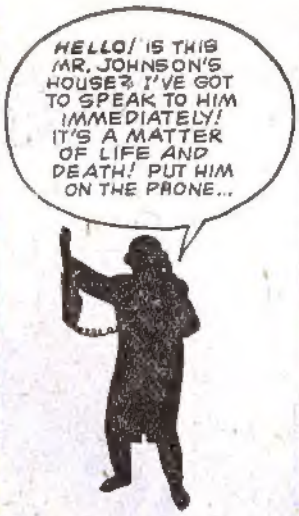
AFTER BEING AWAY FROM HOME FOR SEVERAL DAYS TO SEE HIS DREAMS FULFILLED, KOJER DECIDED TO COME BACK AND SETTLE HIS DOMESTIC AFFAIRS...

EMIL KOJER OPENED THE DOOR TO HIS SHOP... SUDDENLY HIS EYES WERE DRAWN TO A CONTAINER OF TOBACCO STANDING ON THE COUNTER...

YES, MR. KOJER, I'LL DO EXACTLY AS YOU SAY! AFTER THE RUSSIANS AGREE TO YOUR ULTIMATUM, I'LL RECOMMEND YOU AS PERMANENT PRESIDENT OF THE U.N.!

WHAT IS THAT JAR DOING OUT THERE? THAT'S MY PRIVATE EXPERIMENTAL STOCK! YOU DIDN'T SELL ANY OF IT, DID YOU?
I-I...YES, EMIL... TO THAT MAN WHO LIKES TO TRY ALL THE NEW MIXTURES! DID I DO SOMETHING WRONG?

YES, YOU STUPID FOOL! YOU DID SOMETHING THAT COULD...NEVER MIND! I'D BETTER CALL HIM! I'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!
I DIDN'T KNOW, --EMIL! YOU SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME NOT TO SELL ANY OF IT!

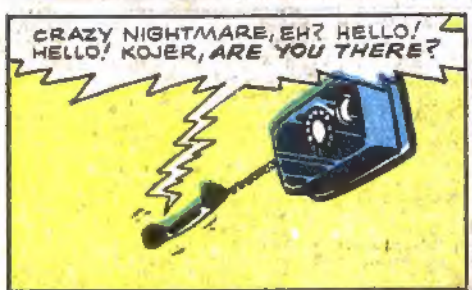


YOU WANT TO SPEAK TO MY DADDY? JUST A MINUTE! HE FELL ASLEEP IN HIS CHAIR WHILE HE WAS SMOKING HIS PIPE! I'LL WAKE HIM UP!
FELL ASLEEP! PIPE!... OH, NO!

THE LITTLE JOHNSON GIRL WOKE HER FATHER AND TOLD HIM THAT MR. KOJER WAS ON THE TELEPHONE...

HELLO, KOJER! NICE TOBACCO YOU'VE GOT HERE! BUT IT'S A LITTLE TOO STRONG! IT PUT ME RIGHT TO SLEEP!
TO SLEEP? TELL ME... DID YOU HAVE A DREAM?

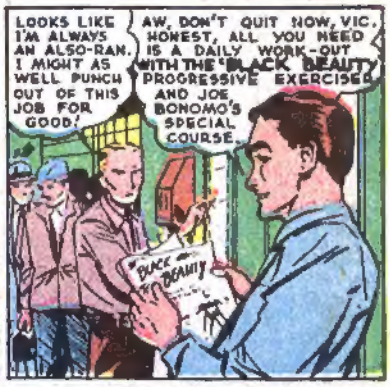
DREAM? YES, NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I HAD THE QUEEREST NIGHTMARE ABOUT YOU! GOOD THING YOU WOKE ME! I DREAMED YOU HAD LOST EVERYTHING YOU OWNED... BECAME POOR... AND THEN A CRAZY THING HAPPENED! YOU DISAPPEARED INTO THE JUNGLES OF DARKEST AFRICA...

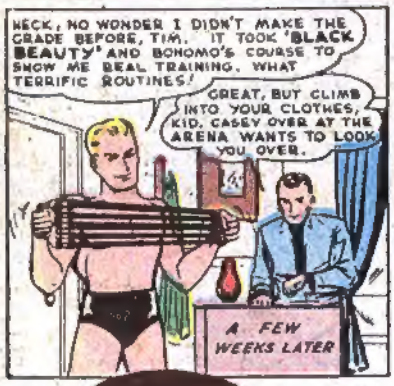


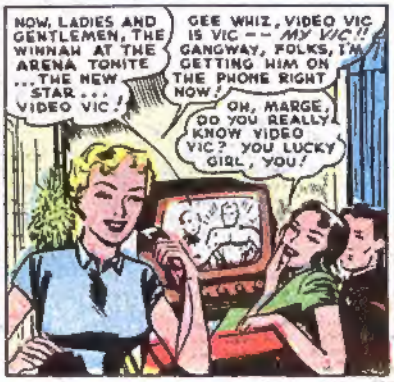
I'LL WORK IT OUT AGAIN! I'LL FIND IT IF IT TAKES FOREVER!
BUT EMIL KOJER WAS A LONG WAY OFF AT THAT MOMENT, FEVERISHLY TRYING TO WORK OUT A STRANGE, SWEET-TASTING BLEND OF TOBACCO...
THE END

How 'BLACK BEAUTY' TURNS AN ALSO-RAN into "VIDEO VIC!"

SAY, BOSS, I'M SLATED FOR PROMOTION, HOW'S ABOUT ME HEADING UP THAT NEW CRUSHER GANG?
NO SOAP, VIC! SORRY, BUT THAT JOB TAKES TOP MUSCLE POWER!


LOOKS LIKE I'M ALWAYS AN ALSO-RAN. I MIGHT AS WELL PUNCH OUT OF THIS JOB FOR GOOD!
AW, DON'T QUIT NOW, VIC. HONEST, ALL YOU NEED IS A DAILY WORK-OUT WITH THE 'BLACK BEAUTY' PROGRESSIVE EXERCISER AND JOE BONOMO'S SPECIAL COURSE.
BLACK BEAUTY


HECK, NO WONDER I DIDN'T MAKE THE GRADE BEFORE, TIM. IT TOOK 'BLACK BEAUTY' AND BONOMO'S COURSE TO SHOW ME REAL TRAINING, WHAT TERRIFIC ROUTINES!
GREAT, BUT CLIMB INTO YOUR CLOTHES, KID. CASEY OVER AT THE ARENA WANTS TO LOOK YOU OVER.
A FEW WEEKS LATER


NOW, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE WINNAH AT THE ARENA TONITE ...THE NEW STAR... VIDEO VIC!
GEE WHIZ, VIDEO VIC IS VIC — MY VIC!! GANGWAY, FOLKS, I'M GETTING HIM ON THE PHONE RIGHT NOW!
OH, MARGE, DO YOU REALLY KNOW VIDEO VIC? YOU LUCKY GIRL, YOU!

I'M PROUD TO KNOW YOU, VIDEO VIC. MY WIFE AND I SAW YOU WIN LAST NIGHT. I'VE GOT BIG PLANS FOR YOU HERE.
SURE, VIC, THAT CRUSHER JOB IS YOURS IF YOU STILL WANT IT.
THANKS MR. BURKE — OKAY MORAN, I KNOW I CAN LICK ANY JOB NOW!

FREE with every course
NEW 5 CABLE
BLACK BEAUTY
PROGRESSIVE EXERCISER
HEAVY DUTY

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INCREASE YOUR STRENGTH • BUILD YOUR BODY

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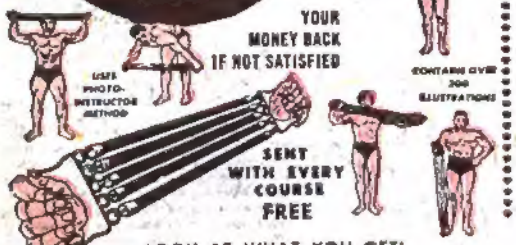

YOUR MONEY BACK IF NOT SATISFIED

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HE TRIED IN EVERY WAY TO GET THE SECRET SUBSTANCE FROM ELSA BEATTY'S POSSESSION, BUT FOR ALL HIS WILES AND CHARM, FLOYD COE FAILED UNTIL HE POINTED A GUN AT...

The WOMAN WHO PLAYED with DOLLS

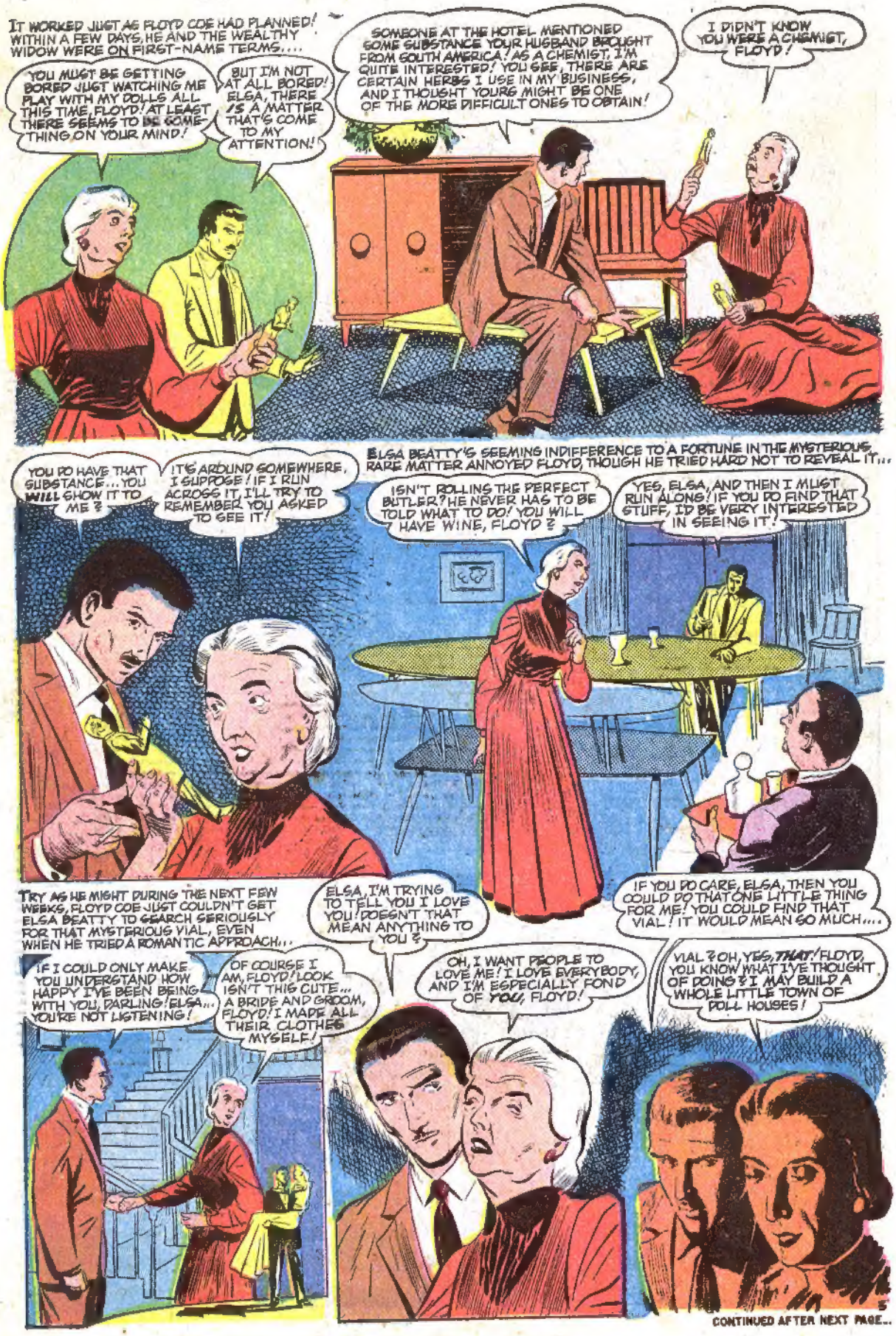
I STILL SAY THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH A MIDDLE-AGED WOMAN WHO SPENDS HOURS EVERY DAY PLAYING WITH DOLLS!
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH ELSA BEATTY HAVING A HOBBY! LOTS OF MEN PLAY WITH ELECTRIC TRAINS OR BUILD MODEL SHIPS! JUST BECAUSE MRS. BEATTY IS RICH, PEOPLE ENVY HER, AND THEY TRY TO SAY SHE'S NOT ALL THERE!
SODAS
A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!
M 127
RICHARD DORSEE

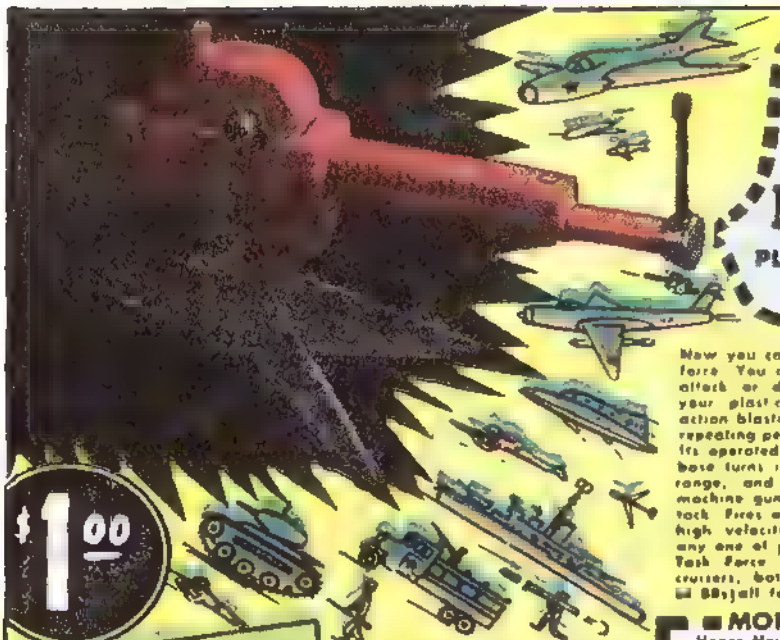
FLOYD COE WAS JUST PASSING THRU TOWN, AND HAD STOPPED OFF FOR A BITE TO EAT! HIS MILD INTEREST IN A NEARBY DISCUSSION BECAME KEEN AT THE MENTION OF A WEALTHY WOMAN...

I'LL SAY SHE'S RICH! AND I'VE HEARD THAT HER HUSBAND BROUGHT HOME A VIAL OF SOME STUFF FROM SOUTH AMERICA BEFORE HE DIED! IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE WORTH A FORTUNE!
ISN'T THAT THE WAY? THE RICH GET RICHER!

YEAH! SHE HAS THAT SECRET SUBSTANCE LYING AROUND SOMEWHERE IN THAT SPRAWLING MANSION, LIKE HAVING A HALF-MILLION IN YOUR KITCHEN DRAWER!
WHATEVER THAT STUFF IS, I'M GOING TO SEE TO IT ELSA BEATTY ISN'T BURDENED WITH IT TOO MUCH LONGER!

AFTER A HASTY SEARCH OF THE LOCAL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY, FLOYD COE FOUND HIS WAY TO THE BEATTY MANSION...
NO, I'M NOT EXPECTED! I WAS DRIVING THROUGH TOWN AND REMEMBERED GEORGE BEATTY LIVED HERE! I WENT TO SCHOOL WITH HIM!
I SEE! PLEASE STEP IN, SIR! I'LL TELL MRS. BEATTY!
MR. COE? ROLLINS SAYS YOU'RE A CLASSMATE OF GEORGE'S! HOW NICE OF YOU TO STOP BY!
I JUST COULDN'T PASS THRU EVANSBURG WITHOUT SAYING HELLO TO GEORGE AND MEETING HIS CHARMING WIFE! HOW IS THE OLD BOY?
OH, I'M AFRAID THERE'S BEEN A MISTAKE, MR. COE! EVANSBURG IS TEN MILES FARTHER EAST! THIS IS WYNVILLE! MY GEORGE DIED SEVERAL YEARS AGO!
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, MRS. BEATTY! I GUESS I JUST HADN'T DRIVEN AS FAR AS I THOUGHT!
I SAY, THIS IS REALLY A FASCINATING DISPLAY! MIND IF I LOOK CLOSER?
NOT AT ALL, MR. COE! NO ONE EVER COMES TO SEE MY DOLLS! I'M AFRAID MOST PEOPLE IN WYNVILLE THINK I'M A LITTLE STRANGE!
STRANGE? BECAUSE OF THIS WONDERFUL HOBBY? I DON'T THINK YOU'RE AT ALL STRANGE, MRS. BEATTY! I MAY HAVE COME TO THE WRONG PLACE BUT I STILL THINK GEORGE BEATTY'S WIFE IS CHARMING!
HOW NICE YOU ARE! YOU WILL STAY AWHILE, MR. COE?
VERY THOUGHTFUL OF YOU, ROLLINS! YOU WILL HAVE CAKE AND WINE WITH ME?
I BELIEVE I WILL, THANK YOU!
YOU KNOW, I'M BEGINNING TO THINK MY STOPPING IN WYNVILLE WAS A FORTUNATE MISTAKE! I'M IN NO HURRY TO LEAVE HERE... NOW!
YOU MUST COME AGAIN AND SEE... UH... MY DOLLS AND DOLL HOUSE!
2


IT WORKED JUST AS FLOYD COE HAD PLANNED! WITHIN A FEW DAYS, HE AND THE WEALTHY WIDOW WERE ON FIRST-NAME TERMS....
YOU MUST BE GETTING BORED JUST WATCHING ME PLAY WITH MY DOLLS ALL THIS TIME, FLOYD! AT LEAST THERE SEEMS TO BE SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND!
BUT I'M NOT AT ALL BORED! ELSA, THERE IS A MATTER THAT'S COME TO MY ATTENTION!
SOMEONE AT THE HOTEL MENTIONED SOME SUBSTANCE YOUR HUSBAND BROUGHT FROM SOUTH AMERICA! AS A CHEMIST, I'M QUITE INTERESTED! YOU SEE, THERE ARE CERTAIN HERBS I USE IN MY BUSINESS, AND I THOUGHT YOURS MIGHT BE ONE OF THE MORE DIFFICULT ONES TO OBTAIN!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE A CHEMIST, FLOYD!
ELSA BEATTY'S SEEMING INDIFFERENCE TO A FORTUNE IN THE MYSTERIOUS, RARE MATTER ANNOYED FLOYD, THOUGH HE TRIED HARD NOT TO REVEAL IT...
YOU DO HAVE THAT SUBSTANCE... YOU WILL SHOW IT TO ME?
IT'S AROUND SOMEWHERE, I SUPPOSE! IF I RUN ACROSS IT, I'LL TRY TO REMEMBER YOU ASKED TO SEE IT!
ISN'T ROLLING THE PERFECT BUTLER? HE NEVER HAS TO BE TOLD WHAT TO DO! YOU WILL HAVE WINE, FLOYD?
YES, ELSA, AND THEN I MUST RUN ALONG! IF YOU DO FIND THAT STUFF, I'D BE VERY INTERESTED IN SEEING IT!
TRY AS HE MIGHT DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, FLOYD COE JUST COULDN'T GET ELSA BEATTY TO SEARCH SERIOUSLY FOR THAT MYSTERIOUS VIAL, EVEN WHEN HE TRIED A ROMANTIC APPROACH...
ELSA, I'M TRYING TO TELL YOU I LOVE YOU! DOESN'T THAT MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU?
IF YOU DO CARE, ELSA, THEN YOU COULD DO THAT ONE LITTLE THING FOR ME! YOU COULD FIND THAT VIAL! IT WOULD MEAN SO MUCH....
IF I COULD ONLY MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND HOW HAPPY I'VE BEEN BEING WITH YOU, DARLING! ELSA... YOU'RE NOT LISTENING!
OF COURSE I AM, FLOYD! LOOK ISN'T THIS CUTE... A BRIDE AND GROOM, FLOYD! I MADE ALL THEIR CLOTHES MYSELF!
OH, I WANT PEOPLE TO LOVE ME! I LOVE EVERYBODY, AND I'M ESPECIALLY FOND OF YOU, FLOYD!
VIAL? OH, YES, THAT! FLOYD, YOU KNOW WHAT I'VE THOUGHT OF DOING? I MAY BUILD A WHOLE LITTLE TOWN OF DOLL HOUSES!
5
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...



AUTOMATIC FIRING BB MACHINE GUN

PLUS COMPLETE TASK FORCE & SPACE SHIP ARMADA

Now you can be Commander In-Chief of this complete task force. You can deploy your troops, navy and air force for attack or defense and every pitched battle is won as your plastic model machine gun goes into devastating action blasting your target in a hail of fast firing automatic repeating pellets. Simply pour in the BBs and then fire away. Its operated by a crank and sets up in a jiffy. The swivel base turns in a full circle assuring complete coverage and range, and is removable so that you can carry your machine gun wherever you go firing as you advance to attack. Fires automatically as many BBs as you want at such high velocity, that a direct hit will actually bowl over any one of your targets. And, you get a complete 21 piece Task Force of soldiers, tanks, gunners, trucks, bombers, cruisers, battleships and space ships. Plus a full supply of BBs all for only $1.00 + 25c shipping charges.

$1.00

You Get All This

- Automatic firing BB Machine Gun with swivel base
- Complete 21 piece task force selected of
  - infantrymen
  - tanks
  - gunners
  - trucks
  - cruisers
  - battleships
  - jet planes
  - bombers
  - riflemen
  - space ships
  - full supply of BBs

10 Day Free Trial

This is the newest, most sensational action toy out and we're so sure that you will be delighted, that we offer a full 10 day Free Trial. If you are not 100% satisfied simply return for full refund. You risk nothing. We know you're going to be delighted so we make this amazing offer.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

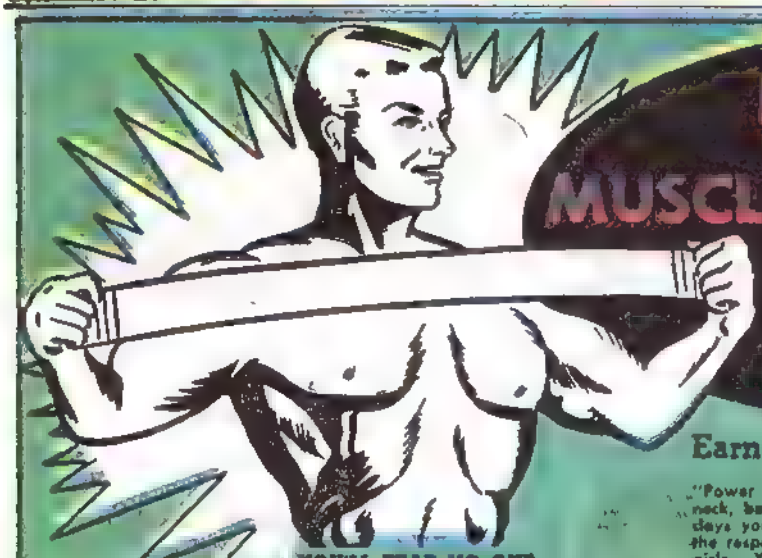
Honor House Products Dept BB-6
Lynbrook, N. Y.

Rush my Automatic Firing BB Machine Gun and Complete Task Force Armada on 10 day Free Trial. If I am not completely satisfied, I may return it for prompt refund of full purchase price.

☐ I enclose $1.00 + 25c shipping charges. Same money back guarantee.
☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus a few cents postage.

Name _____

Address _____



DEVELOP MUSCLES OF STEEL!

START BUILDING A SUPER BODY IN JUST 10 DAYS only $1.00

Earn the respect of all you meet

"Power Gym" will develop your chest, biceps, triceps, neck, back, shoulder, stomach and legs. In just 10 short days you'll start showing the results that will earn you the respect of all your friends—the admiration of all the girls. You'll develop a powerful, masculine physique that will keep you fit, healthy and in top shape always. So don't delay! Start now on your way to a body of steel.

YOU'LL FEAR NO ONE

Imagine how proud you'll be when your muscles begin to bulge and your body begins to take on the powerful, rock-hard appearance of a "Mr. America". You'll fear no one because you're confident of your might! And, wherever you go you'll enjoy the envious glances of other guys, and the open admiration of all the girls who'll just love to feel your muscles. "Power-Gym" is compactly made of elastic rubber. Only $1 plus 25c shipping charges.

10 DAY FREE TRIAL

Order now! If you aren't 100% satisfied with the improvement shown in just 10 days return to us for full refund of purchase price.

Features

- Develops a muscular frame
- Keeps you trim and healthy
- Fear no one
- Be envied and admired
- Made of elasticized rubber

Money Back Guarantee

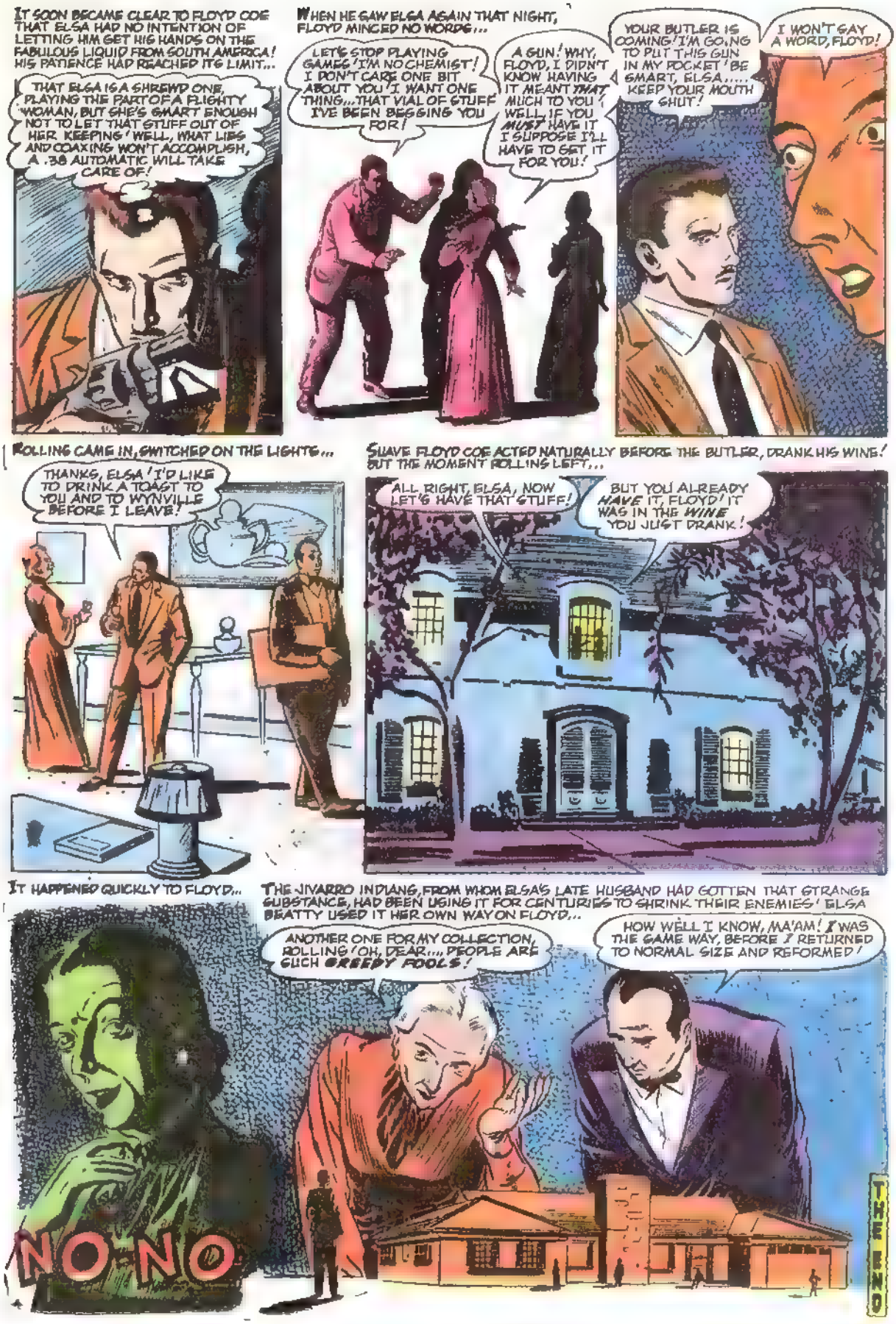
Honor House Products Corp. Dept. MD-4
Lynbrook, New York

Rush my "Power-Gym" Muscle Builder at once. If I am not 100% delighted I may return it after 10 day free trial for full refund of purchase price.

☐ I enclose $1 plus 25c shipping charges
☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postmen on delivery plus C.O.D.

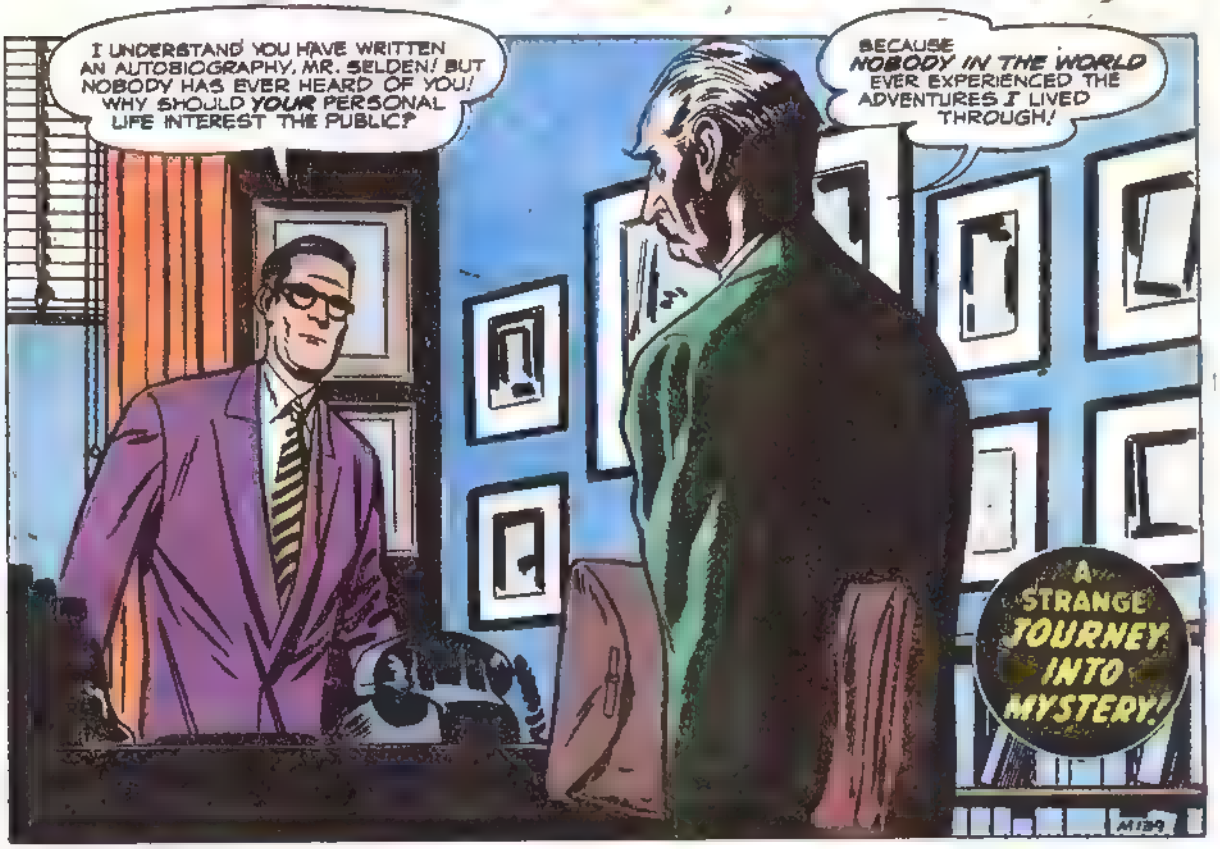
Name _____

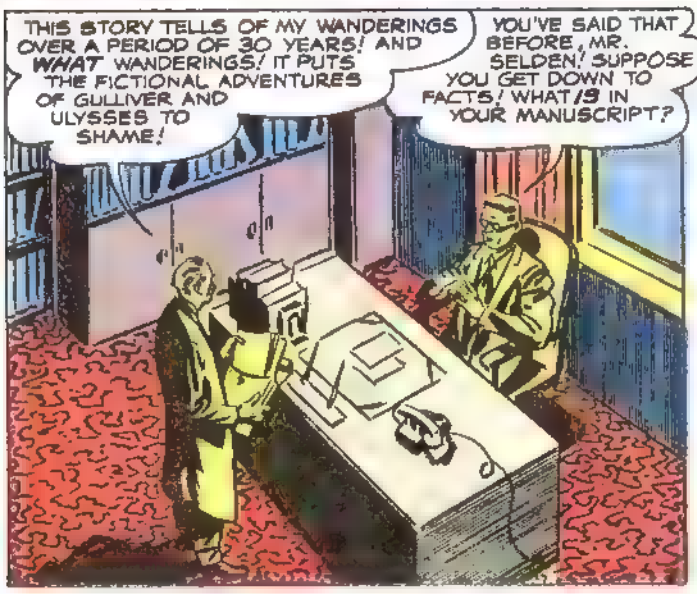
Address _____

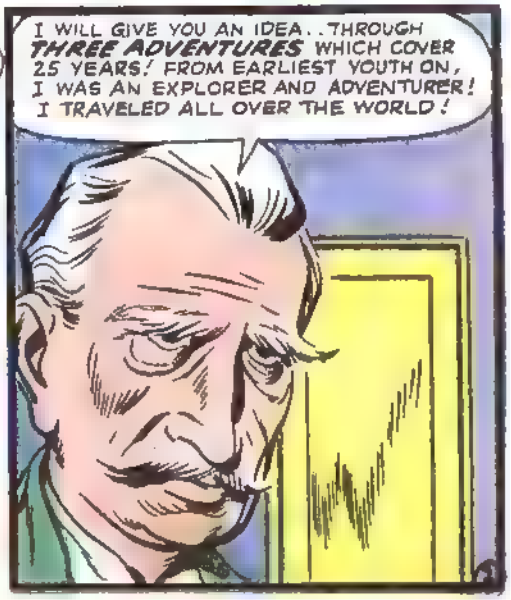

IT SOON BECAME CLEAR TO FLOYD COE THAT ELSA HAD NO INTENTION OF LETTING HIM GET HIS HANDS ON THE FABULOUS LIQUID FROM SOUTH AMERICA! HIS PATIENCE HAD REACHED ITS LIMIT...
THAT ELSA IS A SHREWD ONE, PLAYING THE PART OF A FLIGHTY WOMAN, BUT SHE'S SMART ENOUGH NOT TO LET THAT STUFF OUT OF HER KEEPING! WELL, WHAT LIES AND COAXING WON'T ACCOMPLISH, A .38 AUTOMATIC WILL TAKE CARE OF!
WHEN HE SAW ELSA AGAIN THAT NIGHT, FLOYD MINCED NO WORDS...
LET'S STOP PLAYING GAMES! I'M NO CHEMIST! I DON'T CARE ONE BIT ABOUT YOU! I WANT ONE THING...THAT VIAL OF STUFF I'VE BEEN BEGGING YOU FOR!
A GUN! WHY, FLOYD, I DIDN'T KNOW HAVING IT MEANT THAT MUCH TO YOU! WELL, IF YOU MUST HAVE IT I SUPPOSE I'LL HAVE TO GET IT FOR YOU!
YOUR BUTLER IS COMING! I'M GOING TO PUT THIS GUN IN MY POCKET! BE SMART, ELSA..... KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT!
I WON'T SAY A WORD, FLOYD!
ROLLING CAME IN, SWITCHED ON THE LIGHTS...
THANKS, ELSA! I'D LIKE TO DRINK A TOAST TO YOU AND TO WYNVILLE BEFORE I LEAVE!
SUAVE FLOYD COE ACTED NATURALLY BEFORE THE BUTLER, DRANK HIS WINE! BUT THE MOMENT ROLLINS LEFT...
ALL RIGHT, ELSA, NOW LET'S HAVE THAT STUFF!
BUT YOU ALREADY HAVE IT, FLOYD! IT WAS IN THE WINE YOU JUST DRANK!
IT HAPPENED QUICKLY TO FLOYD...
THE JIVARRO INDIANS, FROM WHOM ELSA'S LATE HUSBAND HAD GOTTEN THAT STRANGE SUBSTANCE, HAD BEEN USING IT FOR CENTURIES TO SHRINK THEIR ENEMIES! ELSA BEATTY USED IT HER OWN WAY ON FLOYD...
ANOTHER ONE FOR MY COLLECTION, ROLLING! OH, DEAR..., PEOPLE ARE SUCH GREEDY FOOLS!
HOW WELL I KNOW, MA'AM! I WAS THE SAME WAY, BEFORE I RETURNED TO NORMAL SIZE AND REFORMED!
NO NO
THE END

ONE MORNING A TALL, THIN MAN OF SIXTY WALKED INTO A PUBLISHER'S OFFICE! HE HAD A STRANGE STORY TO TELL! **SO** STRANGE A TALE INDEED THAT IT WOULD BE EASY TO CALL BRUCE SELDEN...

THE PHONY!


I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE WRITTEN AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY, MR. SELDEN! BUT NOBODY HAS EVER HEARD OF YOU! WHY SHOULD *YOUR* PERSONAL LIFE INTEREST THE PUBLIC?
BECAUSE *NOBODY IN THE WORLD* EVER EXPERIENCED THE ADVENTURES *I* LIVED THROUGH!
A STRANGE *JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!*
M139


THIS STORY TELLS OF MY WANDERINGS OVER A PERIOD OF 30 YEARS! AND *WHAT* WANDERINGS! IT PUTS THE FICTIONAL ADVENTURES OF GULLIVER AND ULYSSES TO SHAME!
YOU'VE SAID THAT BEFORE, MR. SELDEN! SUPPOSE YOU GET DOWN TO FACTS! WHAT *IS* IN YOUR MANUSCRIPT?

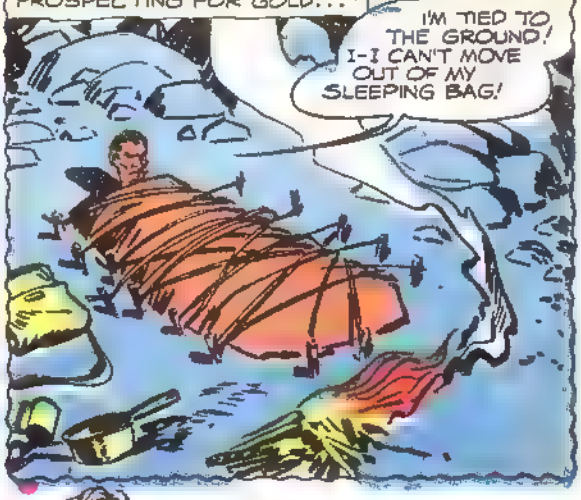

I WILL GIVE YOU AN IDEA..THROUGH *THREE ADVENTURES* WHICH COVER 25 YEARS! FROM EARLIEST YOUTH ON, I WAS AN EXPLORER AND ADVENTURER! I TRAVELED ALL OVER THE WORLD!

"THIRTY YEARS AGO, I WAS IN BURMA, LOOKING FOR A MYTHICAL CACHE OF GEMS! AFTER SEARCHING FOR SIX MONTHS, I FOUND MYSELF IN A LITTLE-KNOWN PART OF THE JUNGLE! ONE DAY..."
A LEOPARD! RUN! RUN!
"BEFORE I COULD FIRE A SHOT, I FELT MYSELF SEIZED FROM BEHIND!"
"TO MY SHOCK, I FOUND MYSELF STARING AT THE STRANGEST-LOOKING MEN I'D EVER SEEN IN MY LIFE!"
"PERHAPS BECAUSE MY FACE WAS SO *DIFFERENT* FROM THEIR OWN, THESE CAT FOLK TREATED ME LIKE A GOD! THEY MADE ME THEIR ABSOLUTE RULER! BUT-I WAS THEIR CAPTIVE! IF I TRIED TO GET AWAY, THEY'D HAVE KILLED ME!"
EIGHT YEARS PASSED BEFORE I COULD ESCAPE THE CAT PEOPLE! TWO YEARS LATER, I WAS CAST AWAY ON THE AFRICAN COAST, WHEN THE FREIGHTER I'D SHIPPED ON BROKE IN TWO AND SANK IN A STORM!
"I'D BEEN CAST AWAY AMONG A RACE OF GIANTS! I CONSIDERED MYSELF DOOMED!"
"WHEN I CAME TO, MORE DEAD THAN ALIVE, I SAW SOMETHING THAT CHILLED ME TO THE BONE!"
2

"BUT MY LUCK KEPT PACE WITH MY MISFORTUNE! MY VERY PUNINESS AWED THESE GIANTS; THEY MADE ME THEIR KING... AND I STAYED WITH THEM, AGAINST MY WILL, FOR TEN LONG YEARS! I SURELY THOUGHT I'D NEVER GET BACK TO CIVILIZATION AGAIN!"

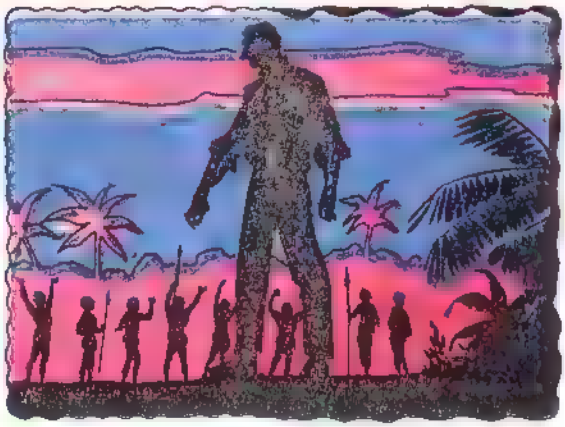
"BUT I WAS WRONG! ONE MORNING, A TIDAL WAVE STRUCK THE GIANTS' VILLAGE AND I WAS LUCKY ENOUGH TO ESCAPE! BUT A YEAR LATER, IN THE AUSTRALIAN BUSH COUNTRY, WHERE I WAS PROSPECTING FOR GOLD..."

I'M TIED TO THE GROUND! I-I CAN'T MOVE OUT OF MY SLEEPING BAG!



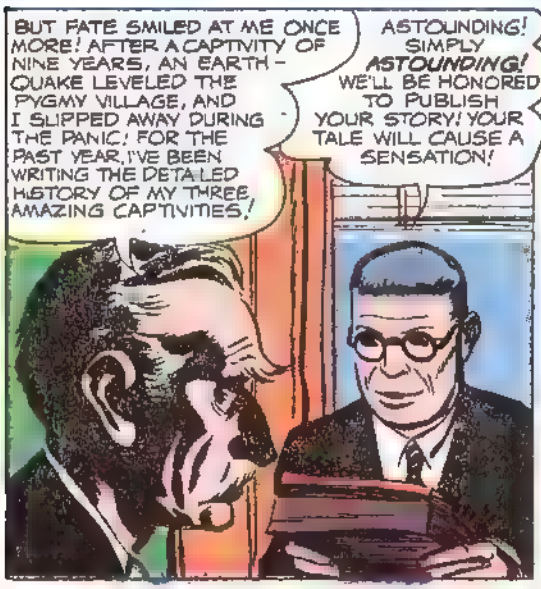
"ONCE AGAIN, ILL FATE HAD STRUCK AT ME! I WAS THE PRISONER OF BUSH PYGMIES! CREATURES NO MORE THAN A FOOT HIGH! THEY WERE DOING A CEREMONIAL DANCE AROUND MY BODY! THIS WAS THE END! THEY MEANT TO KILL ME WHEN THEY FINISHED THEIR VICTORY DANCE!"

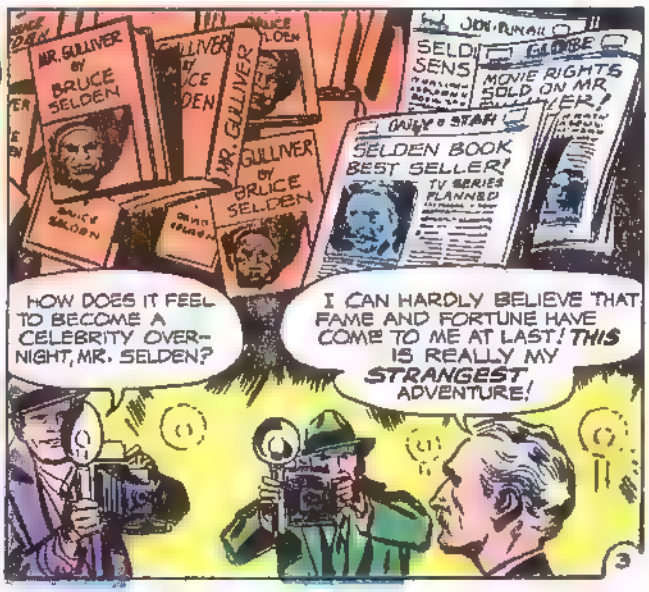
"BUT AGAIN IT WAS THE INCONGRUITY OF MY SIZE WHICH SAVED MY LIFE! INSTEAD OF DISPATCHING ME, THEY INVITED ME TO BECOME THEIR KING! THEY WATCHED ME LIKE HAWKS! THEY NEVER LET ME OUT OF THEIR SIGHT! IF I TRIED TO ESCAPE, ONE OF THEIR TINY POISONED DARTS WOULD STOP ME IN MY TRACKS!"



BUT FATE SMILED AT ME ONCE MORE! AFTER A CAPTIVITY OF NINE YEARS, AN EARTHQUAKE LEVELED THE PYGMY VILLAGE, AND I SLIPPED AWAY DURING THE PANIC! FOR THE PAST YEAR, I'VE BEEN WRITING THE DETAILED HISTORY OF MY THREE AMAZING CAPTIVITIES!

ASTOUNDING! SIMPLY ***ASTOUNDING!*** WE'LL BE HONORED TO PUBLISH YOUR STORY! YOUR TALE WILL CAUSE A SENSATION!





HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BECOME A CELEBRITY OVERNIGHT, MR. SELDEN?

I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE THAT FAME AND FORTUNE HAVE COME TO ME AT LAST! ***THIS*** IS REALLY MY ***STRANGEST*** ADVENTURE!

BUT THE NAME OF SELDEN HAD HARDLY BECOME A HOUSEHOLD WORD, WHEN THE BUBBLE BURST! SELDEN'S PUBLISHER HAD A SURPRISE VISITOR!

I'M BRUCE SELDEN'S WIFE! THESE ARE HIS TWO CHILDREN! EVEN *WITH* BRUCE'S MAKE-UP, I RECOGNIZED THE WRETCH! BRUCE IS *NOT* 60! HE'S *35*! HE'S NO WORLD ADVENTURER! HE'S A NO-GOOD TRAMP WHO DESERTED HIS FAMILY!

YOU MEAN... SELDEN *MADE UP* HIS ADVENTURES?

EVERY WORD OF IT! BRUCE IS A SLICK SWINDLER WITH A GIFT FOR TELLING A FANTASTIC STORY! HE IS A TOTAL FRAUD... AND SO IS HIS AUTOBIOGRAPHY!

OPERATOR! GET ME THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, *QUICK!*

BUT BRUCE SELDEN'S LUCK REMAINED GOOD! HE MANAGED TO SLIP AWAY FROM THE AUTHORITIES IN TIME, AND TOOK A BERTH ABOARD A FREIGHTER BOUND FOR INDIA!

I'VE BRIBED THE RADIO MAN TO TIP ME OFF IN CASE THE POLICE ALERT ALL VESSELS! MY JOB NOW IS TO MAKE MYSELF *SCARCE!*

IT WASN'T TILL TWO WEEKS LATER, OFF THE COAST OF BORNEO, THAT SELDEN LEARNED THAT A WORLD-WIDE ALERT WAS OUT FOR HIM...

IF I GET CAUGHT DOING THIS —

STOP GRIPING! I PAID YOU PLENTY TO TIP ME OFF! I'LL BE OUT OF SIGHT IN A FEW MINUTES... ON MY WAY TO THE BORNEO SHORE!

AN HOUR LATER, IN THE SEACOAST JUNGLE...

THESE VINES! THEY'RE SHOOTING OUT AS IF THEY WERE OCTOPUS TENTACLES!

SELDEN'S SENSES REELED! HE COULDN'T BELIEVE HIS EYES! THIS WAS *NOT* FICTION! HE WAS HELD PRISONER BY...

HUMAN PLANTS!

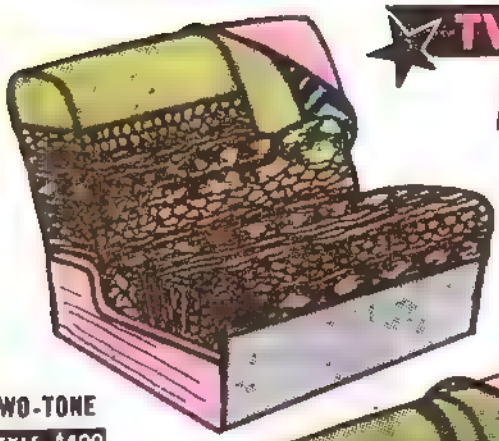
THE IRONY OF IT! BRUCE SELDEN COULD *NEVER* CAPITALIZE ON THE *TRUTH* AS HE HAD ON HIS *LIES!* HE *COULD* ESCAPE AT SOME TIME, BUT *WHERE COULD HE GO?* WHO WOULD *BELIEVE* HIS STORY? WASN'T HE... *THE PHONY?*

TWO-TONE REVERSIBLE

AUTO SEAT COVERS

MADE OF FLEXTON — SERVICE GAUGE PLASTIC FOR LONG WEAR

Waterproof. Easy to attach to seats for good fit. Roomy and neat. Elastic shirring and reinforced overlap side grips insure over-all seat coverage. Will dress up your car's interior and give protection to seat upholstery. Whisk off mud, oil, sand, grime with a damp rag for bright as new appearance. Sewn with nylon thread for long wear and durability.



TWO-TONE

STYLE #400

Snake Zebra Design—Printed Plastic can be used on either side. Gives snappy distinctive dress up appearance. Front or Rear Seat only **$2.98**

TWO-TONE

STYLE #500

Leopard Cowhide design on Printed Flexton Plastic. Leopard on one side, Cowhide on the other. Either side gives beauty to your car's seats. Never gets dirty for it cleans with a whisk of a damp cloth. Front or Rear. **$2.98**

RUSH ORDER TODAY!

ORDER FROM MANUFACTURER AND SAVE!

Choice of split or front seat styles only **$2.98** each. Complete set for Front & Rear only **$5.00**. Specify make of car and seat style with each order. Save Money and buy a set today.

5 day Money Back Guarantee!

CRYDER SALES — DEPT. CR-1
WHITESTONE-ST.N.Y.

Please send me seat covers I have marked. I can try for 10 days and return for refund of purchase price if I am not satisfied

- ☐ Zebra-Snake Design, Reversible 2 TONE
- ☐ Leopard Cowhide Design, Reversible 2 TONE
- ☐ Split Seat $2.98 ☐ Solid Seat $2.98
- ☐ Set (Front & Rear) $5.00
- ☐ I enclose payment ☐ Send C.O.D.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone ____ State ____

TODAY'S BEST BUY

20 CHIC SMART DRESSES

ASSORTED DRESSES in SILK, WOOL, COTTON & RAYON
ALL SIZES in GOOD CONDITION

$3.50

MONEY BACK IF NOT SATISFIED

MAIL ORDER MART Dept. MK-6
139 Sackett Street, B'klyn 31, N. Y.

Enclosed find $1.00 Deposit. I will pay postman C.O.D. balance PLUS postage

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

ITEM	SIZE	PRICE

$1 deposit must accompany order

FREE GIFT WITH EVERY ORDER!

12 CHILDREN'S DRESSES

$3.45

COLORFUL, WASHABLE, USED DRESSES — ALL IN READY TO WEAR CONDITION!

MONEY BACK IF NOT SATISFIED

FREE GIFT! WITH EVERY ORDER!

BARGAIN MART DEPT. MK-8
206 DeGraw Street, B'klyn 31, N. Y.

SIZES 1-6x . . $3.45 SIZES 7-14 . . $3.95

AGE	SIZE	PRICE

Name _____

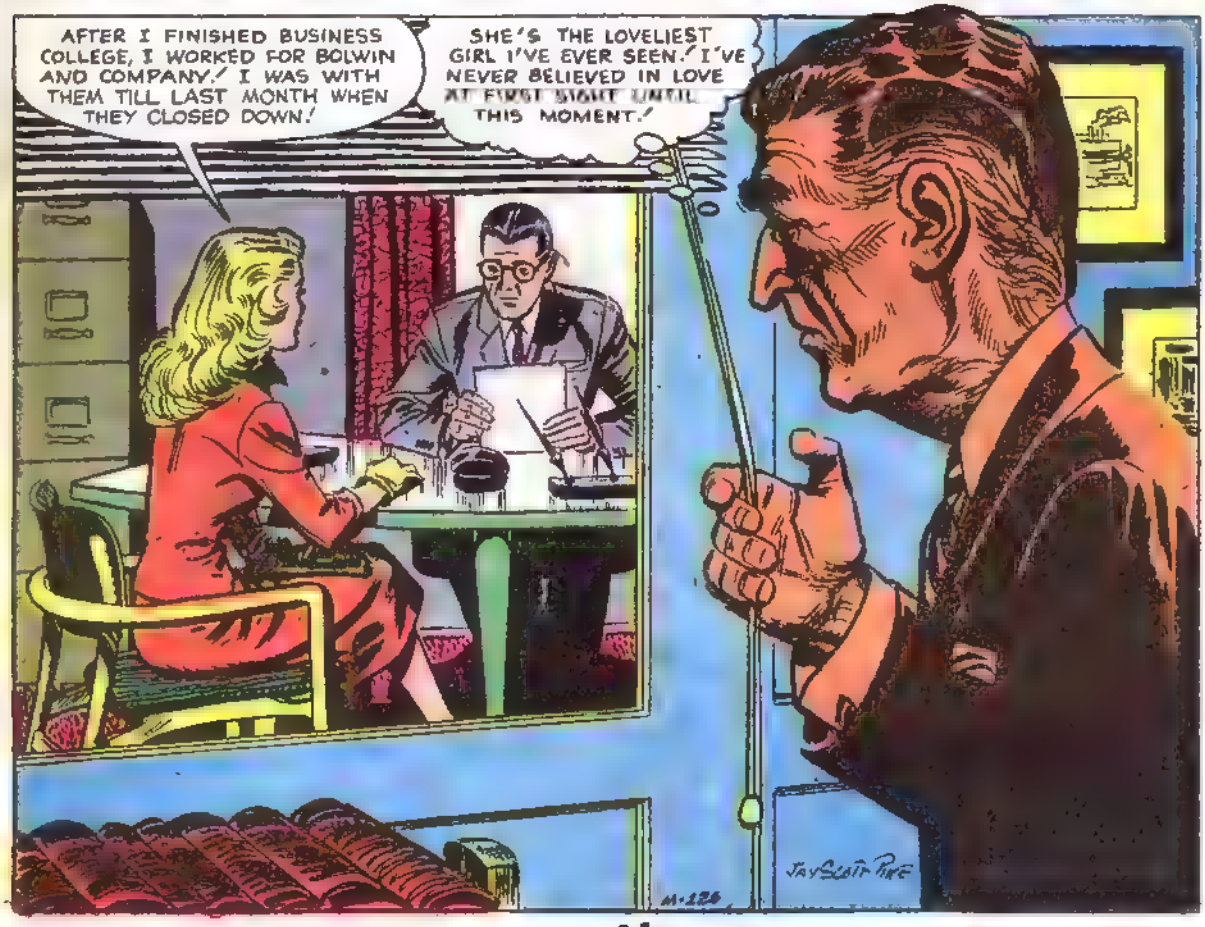
Address _____

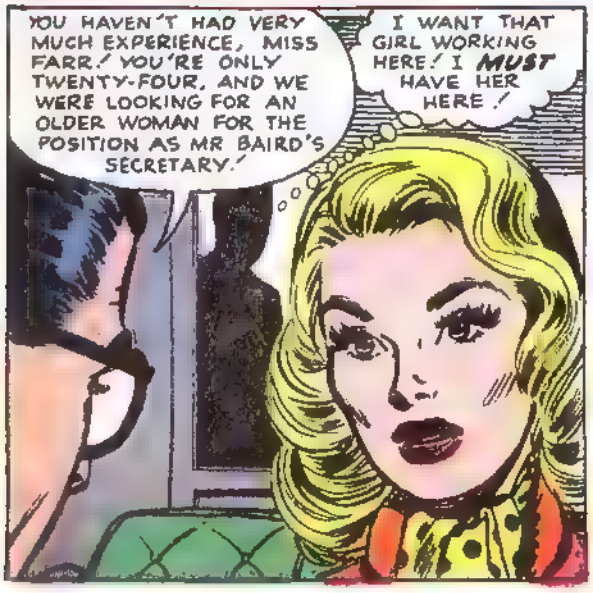
City _____ Zone _____ State _____

$1 deposit must accompany order!

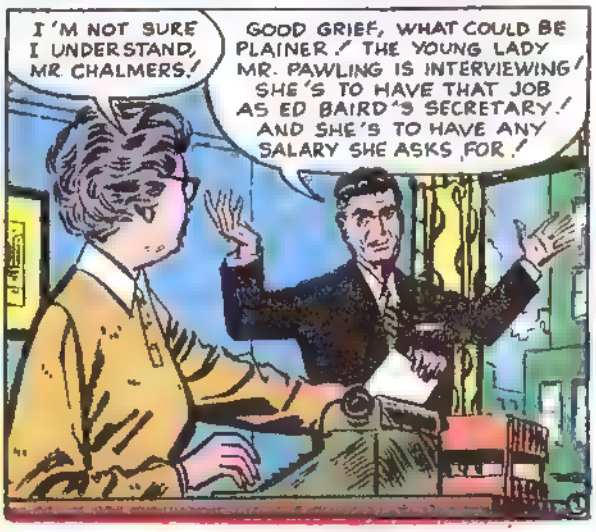
BRUCE CHALMERS' YOUTH WAS BUT A FALSE FRONT / AND LOIS FARR ACCEPTED HIM FOR WHAT HE APPEARED TO BE. A HANDSOME, WEALTHY YOUNG MAN SHE LOVED AND WANTED TO MARRY / BUT A STARTLING SURPRISE LAY WAITING FOR BOTH OF THEM WHEN THEY DISCOVERED WHAT WAS HIDDEN..

BEHIND THE MASK!


AFTER I FINISHED BUSINESS COLLEGE, I WORKED FOR BOLWIN AND COMPANY. / I WAS WITH THEM TILL LAST MONTH WHEN THEY CLOSED DOWN!
SHE'S THE LOVELIEST GIRL I'VE EVER SEEN. / I'VE NEVER BELIEVED IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT UNTIL THIS MOMENT. /
JAY SCOTT PIKE
M-126


YOU HAVEN'T HAD VERY MUCH EXPERIENCE, MISS FARR. / YOU'RE ONLY TWENTY-FOUR, AND WE WERE LOOKING FOR AN OLDER WOMAN FOR THE POSITION AS MR BAIRD'S SECRETARY. /
I WANT THAT GIRL WORKING HERE! I MUST HAVE HER HERE /

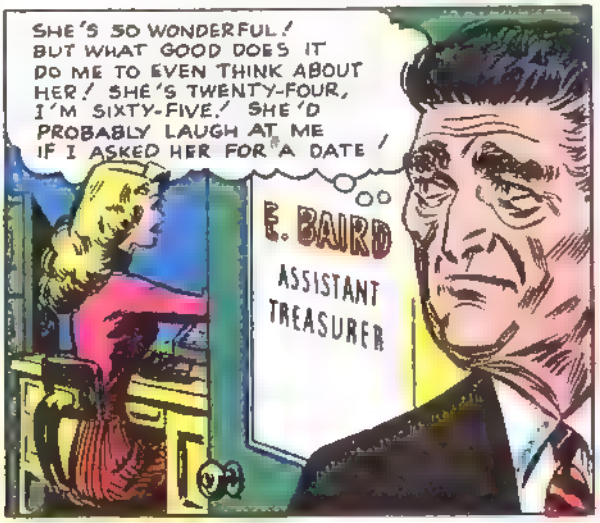
MISS OWENS, SECRETARY TO THE HEAD OF THE VAST CHALMERS' INDUSTRIES, HAD NEVER SEEN HER BOSS QUITE SO FLUSTERED BEFORE...


I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND, MR. CHALMERS!
GOOD GRIEF, WHAT COULD BE PLAINER. / THE YOUNG LADY MR. PAWLING IS INTERVIEWING / SHE'S TO HAVE THAT JOB AS ED BAIRD'S SECRETARY. / AND SHE'S TO HAVE ANY SALARY SHE ASKS FOR /

JUST A MINUTE LATER, AS LOIS FARR WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE, MISS OWENS BROUGHT HER ASTONISHING MESSAGE TO MR PAWLING...

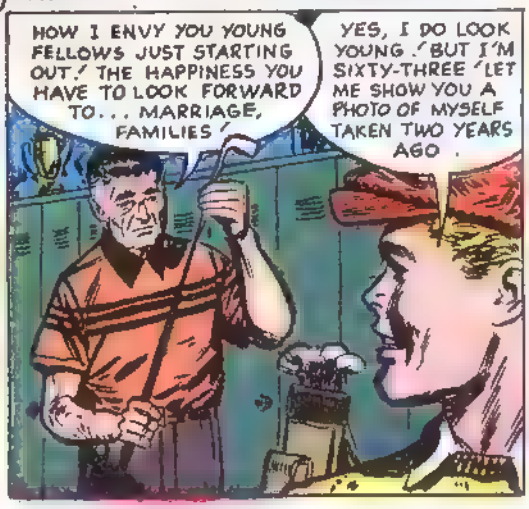
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE MR CHALMERS WOULD INTERFERE IN THE HIRING OF ONE OF HIS EXECUTIVE'S SECRETARIES! AND AT ANY SALARY SHE ASKS!
YES, I KNOW! BRUCE CHALMERS IS NOT USUALLY SO LIBERAL WITH EMPLOYEES' PAY!

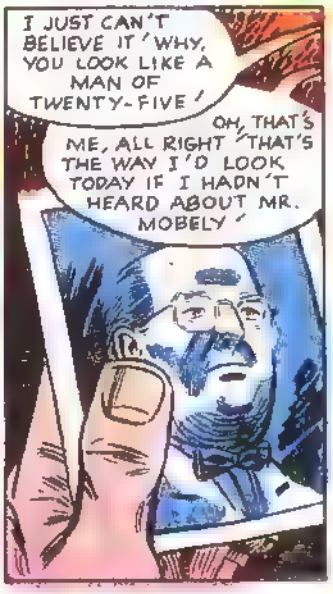
DURING THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, BRUCE CHALMERS, MORE IN LOVE EACH DAY, STOLE MANY FURTIVE GLANCES AT LOIS FARR


SHE'S SO WONDERFUL! BUT WHAT GOOD DOES IT DO ME TO EVEN THINK ABOUT HER! SHE'S TWENTY-FOUR, I'M SIXTY-FIVE! SHE'D PROBABLY LAUGH AT ME IF I ASKED HER FOR A DATE!
E. BAIRD
ASSISTANT TREASURER

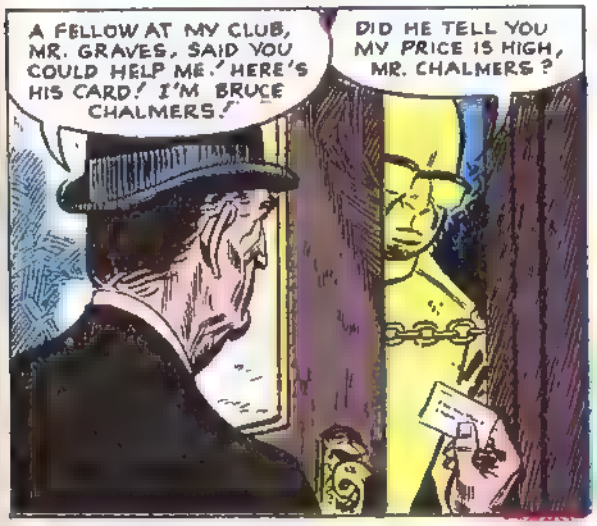
ALL MY LIFE I'VE DEVOTED TO ACHIEVING FINANCIAL SUCCESS! NOW, WHEN IT'S TOO LATE, I REALIZE WHAT I'VE MISSED BY NEVER HAVING HAD A HAPPY HOME, A WIFE!

NOTHING HE COULD DO WOULD DRIVE LOIS FARR FROM HIS MIND! YET, IT ALL SEEMED SO HOPELESS, UNTIL ONE DAY, AT HIS CLUB, HE WAS ABOUT TO GO OUT FOR A ROUND OF GOLF.


HOW I ENVY YOU YOUNG FELLOWS JUST STARTING OUT! THE HAPPINESS YOU HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO... MARRIAGE, FAMILIES!
YES, I DO LOOK YOUNG! BUT I'M SIXTY-THREE! LET ME SHOW YOU A PHOTO OF MYSELF TAKEN TWO YEARS AGO.

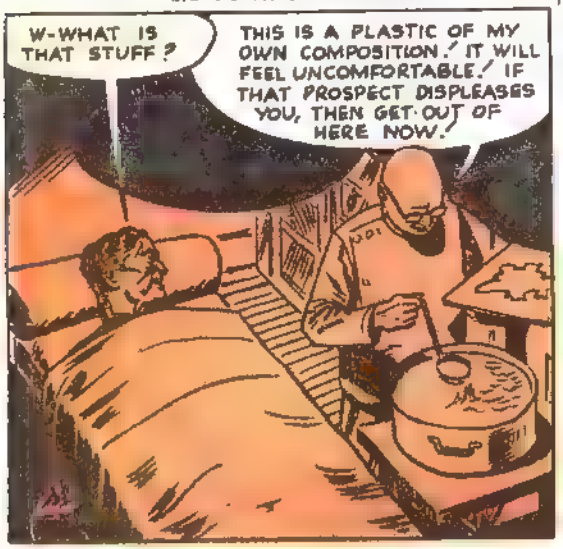

I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT! WHY, YOU LOOK LIKE A MAN OF TWENTY-FIVE!
OH, THAT'S ME, ALL RIGHT! THAT'S THE WAY I'D LOOK TODAY IF I HADN'T HEARD ABOUT MR. MOBELY!

BRUCE CHALMERS EAGERLY CLUNG TO EVERY WORD THE YOUNG-LOOKING MAN SAID AFTER THAT! AND LATER, AT NIGHT..

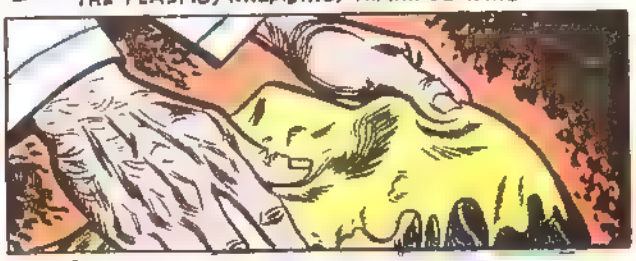

A FELLOW AT MY CLUB, MR. GRAVES, SAID YOU COULD HELP ME! HERE'S HIS CARD! I'M BRUCE CHALMERS!
DID HE TELL YOU MY PRICE IS HIGH, MR. CHALMERS?

I DON'T CARE ABOUT PRICE, MR MOBELY! I'M RICH! I'LL PAY ANY PRICE TO BE MADE TO LOOK YOUNG AGAIN!
VERY WELL, THEN, COME INTO MY WORKSHOP!

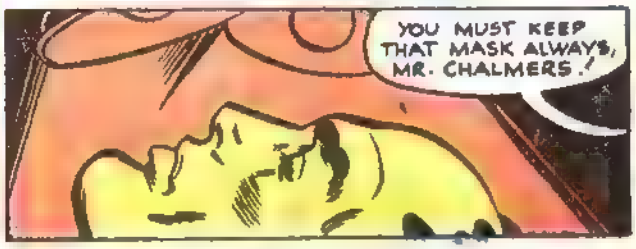
THE PECULIAR MR. MOBELY ORDERED BRUCE TO LIE DOWN ON A TABLE...


W-WHAT IS THAT STUFF?
THIS IS A PLASTIC OF MY OWN COMPOSITION.! IT WILL FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE.! IF THAT PROSPECT DISPLEASES YOU, THEN GET OUT OF HERE NOW.!

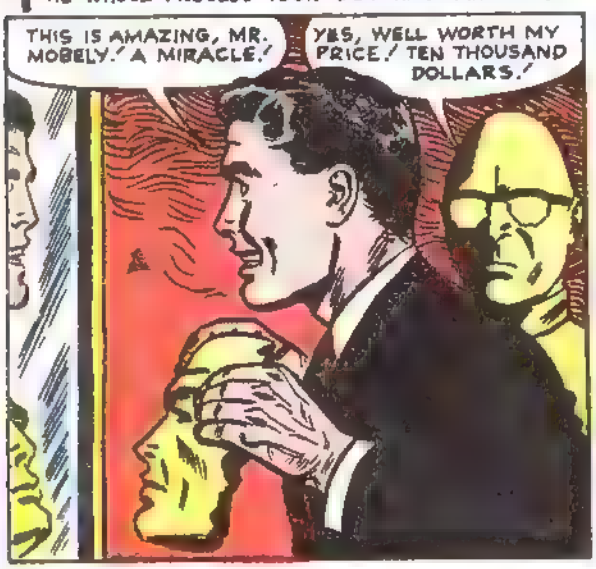
BRUCE STAYED.! MOBELY COVERED HIS FACE WITH THE PLASTIC, KNEADING, MANIPULATING...



THE FINISHED PLASTIC MASK WAS EXPOSED TO ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS...



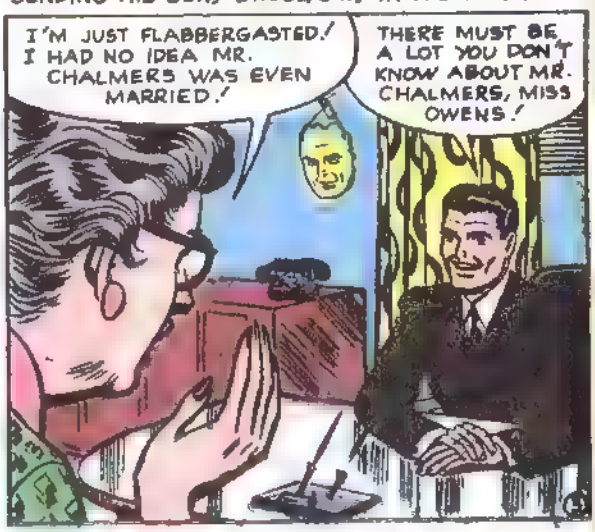
THE WHOLE PROCESS TOOK BUT HALF AN HOUR...



TEN THOUSAND.! I SHOULD NEVER HAVE TOLD YOU I'M RICH! I'LL NOT PAY A CENT MORE THAN A THOUSAND.! I'VE MADE OUT A CHECK FOR THAT AMOUNT.!
NO.! TEN THOUSAND OR NOTHING.! GIVE ME THAT MASK.!

BRUCE PUT HIS CHECK ON THE TABLE AND FLED WITH HIS MASK...

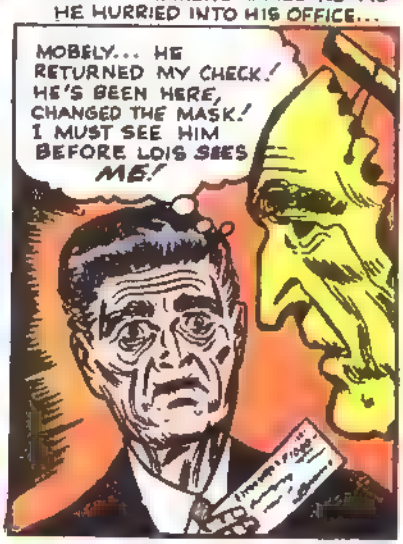
BRUCE CHALMERS PHONED HIS OFFICE, TOLD THEM HE'D SUDDENLY DECIDED TO RETIRE.! HE WAS SENDING HIS SON, BRUCE, JR., IN HIS PLACE...


I'M JUST FLABBERGASTED.! I HAD NO IDEA MR. CHALMERS WAS EVEN MARRIED.!
THERE MUST BE A LOT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT MR. CHALMERS, MISS OWENS.!

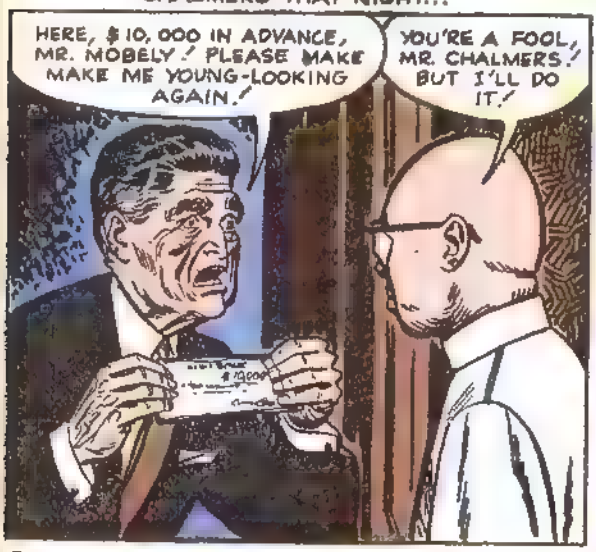
BRUCE QUICKLY MADE HIS PLAY FOR LOIS FARR! WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF STEADY DATING, SHE WAS IN LOVE WITH *HIM*, AND HAD ACCEPTED HIS PROPOSAL OF MARRIAGE...

HE LOOKED AT HIS REFLECTION IN THE REAR VIEW MIRROR...

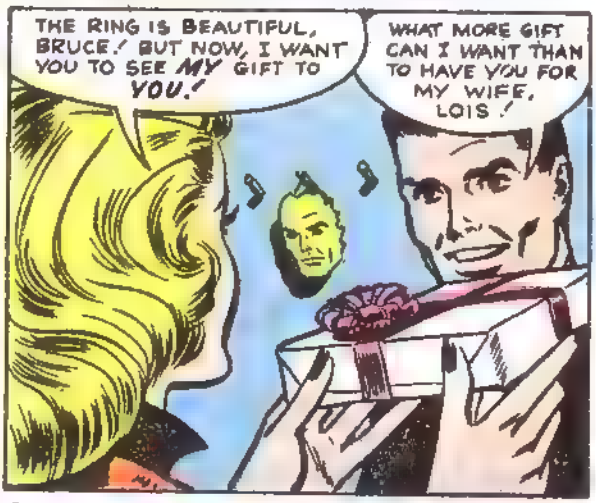
HIS FOOTSTEPS ECHOED THRU THE DARK CHALMERS' BUILDING AS HE HURRIED INTO HIS OFFICE...



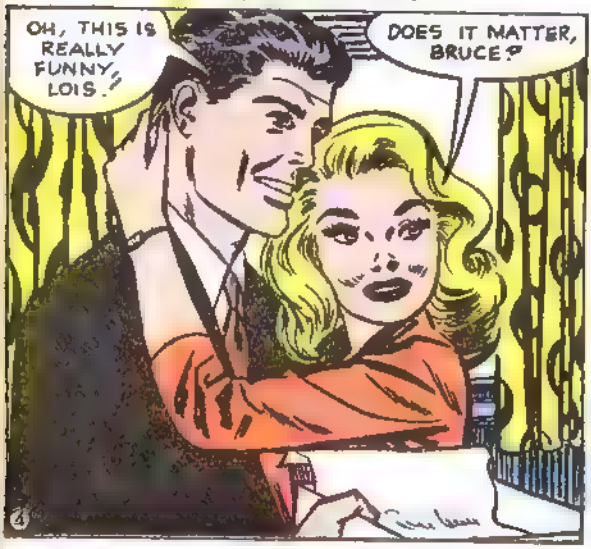
MOBELY WAS NOT SURPRISED TO SEE BRUCE CHALMERS THAT NIGHT...



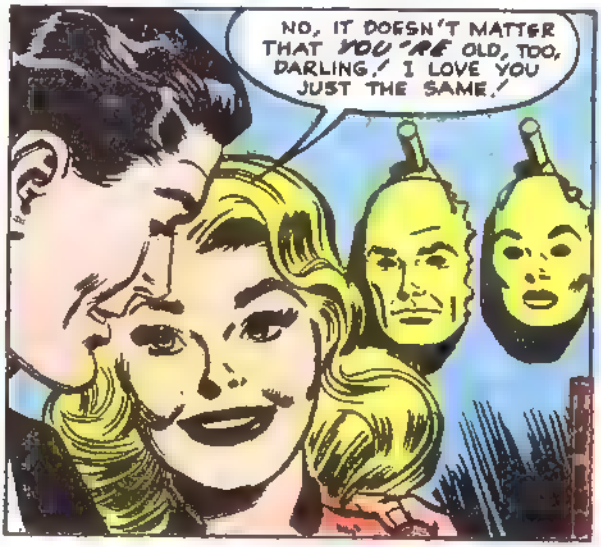
MR. MOBELY TOOK BRUCE'S CHECK AND PERFORMED THE SAME CHANGE IN HIS APPEARANCE! NEXT MORNING, LOIS FARR CAME INTO BRUCE'S OFFICE FOR THE FIRST TIME...



BRUCE OPENED LOIS'S GIFT, TURNED PALE, TREMBLED! BUT A MINUTE LATER...



BRUCE HUNG LOIS'S GIFT, *HER* MOBELY MASK, ON THE WALL BESIDE HIS OWN...



The New Pupil

COLIN took his job quite seriously. He was one of the best teachers in the school. It was for this reason that the principal, Mr. Plum, called him into his office that afternoon.

"I have just received news that we're going to take on a new pupil," Plum explained. "His parents have been traveling about for years, and the youngster, unfortunately, has not had any formal schooling to speak of. Take a look at his record. I just received it in the mail today."

Colin put on his glasses and took the record in his hands. To his dismay he saw that this new pupil whose last name was Mune, was far behind! The youngster had no training in spelling, arithmetic, or history. In fact, despite the fact that young Mune's age qualified him for the upper grades, he couldn't have fitted in anywhere.

"Poor lad," Colin sympathized. "I really don't know how he's going to catch up."

"If it weren't that I have such confidence in your ability as a teacher, I never would have accepted the boy as a student here," Plum confessed. "Another reason is because I have a very good heart, and I am terribly kind . . ."

Plum hesitated and lowered his eyes as he told this flattering truth about himself.

"Oh, but you do. Indeed you do," agreed Colin hastily.

"Then it's easy for you to understand how I felt when the child's parents pleaded with me to help them. They felt that it was only at Bright School . . ."

At the mention of the name of their school, the two men automatically jumped to attention and bowed their heads reverently.

"May the lights of Bright never dim," sang Colin faithfully.

"Hear, hear!" echoed Plum. "So as I was saying, the parents felt that only Bright would be right, Bright would be best, Bright would shine better than all of the rest in giving their son a complete education."

"I can do a solid job," Colin admitted.

"Solid?" asked Plum, furrowing his brows in confusion. "Dear me, you young teachers are so advanced in your language. You modern fellows are . . . how would you say . . . on the sphere."

"On the ball," Colin corrected politely.

"Very well, Colin. Young Mune will report to you before classes tomorrow morning. Good luck! And remember . . . do what's right for Bright!"

When Colin returned to his room that evening, the landlady's daughter was sitting on the porch. Her hair was the color of buttercups, thought Colin appreciatively. He longed to be able to say something flattering like this to her, but he was shy.

"How are you, Gertrude?" asked Colin with a blush. "I was just thinking would you like to go . . . would you like . . ."

"To go where?" asked Gertrude, hoping that Colin would suggest something adventurous . . . like roller skating.

"To go to the museum and do some research with me for my history book."

"Dear me," Gertrude sighed. "I like you, but sometimes I think you're an awful square."

Colin brightened. "Square?" he repeated. "Does that have anything to do with trigonometry?"

He couldn't understand why Gertrude looked angry.

"Colin, unless you do something dashing and romantic, I will have to break our engagement. You must think of something before the week is over. It will be up to you to prove to me that you can do something bold and daring . . . something that will prove to me that you should be the one to have my hand in marriage."

The lights in Colin's eyes flickered and dimmed with despair. His shoulders drooped as he slunk into his room to meditate.

"It is useless," he thought, looking at himself in the mirror. "I am only a poor teacher, devoted to my profession. My superior, old Mr. Plum, thinks I'm dashing, but to Gertrude I'm a fizzle. I have as much sparkle in me as an old glass of soda water."

Sadly, Colin took out his books. Despite his personal sorrow, he must be brave and relentless for his task the next day. Young Mune and his parents were counting on him. Plum was counting on him. His duty must come even before his selfish interests.

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT STORY

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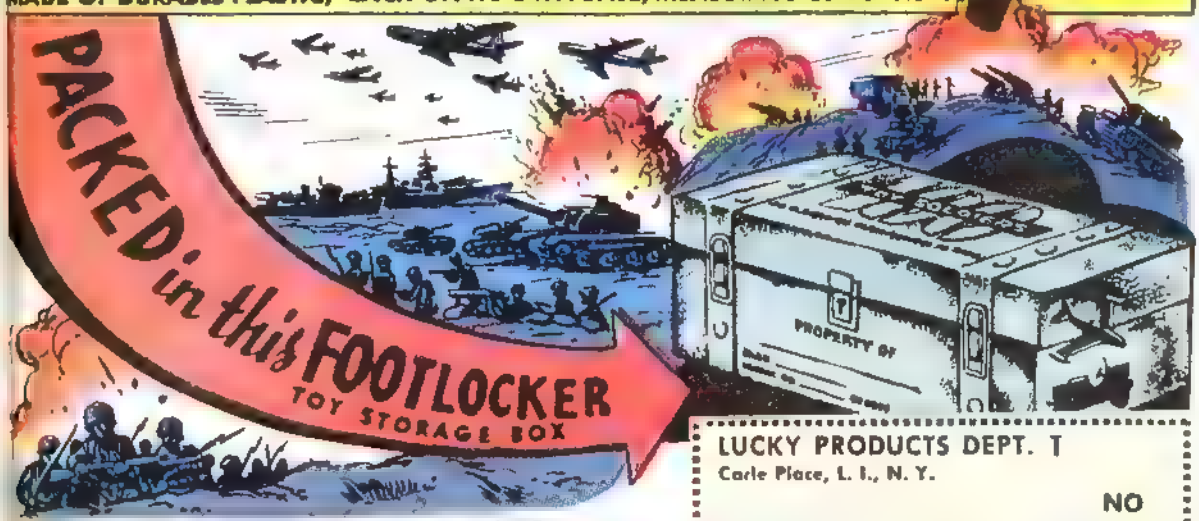

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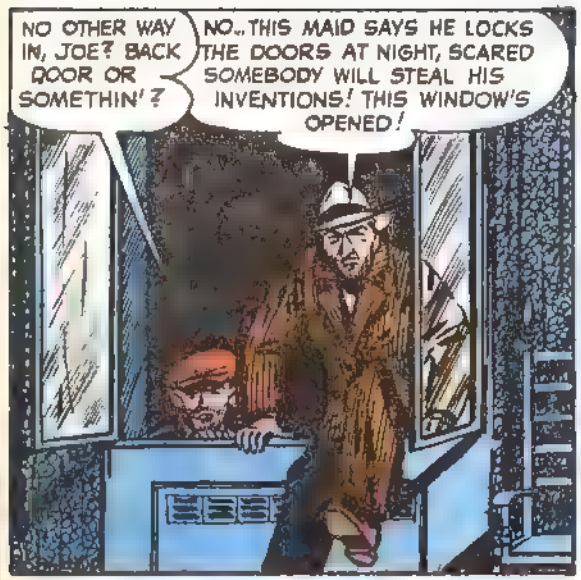
THE TWO WOULD-BE ROBBERS CREPT UP ON THE STRANGE, LONELY HOUSE! INSIDE, IN HIS CELLAR WORKSHOP, THE PECULIAR FRANK MULFORD WAS OCCUPIED WITH ANOTHER OF HIS FANTASTIC INVENTIONS! HE WAS NOT AWARE OF THE INTRUDERS' PRESENCE UNTIL ONE OF THEM ORDERED..

DON'T TURN AROUND!

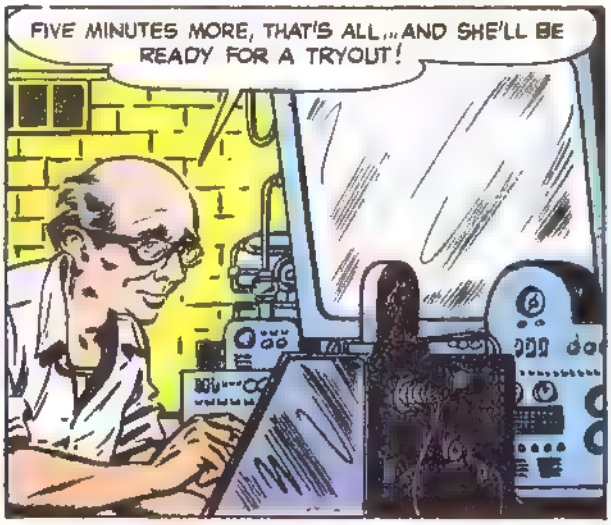
THIS'LL BE A CINCH JOB, WALLY! MULFORD'S PECULIAR... ALWAYS WORKIN' ON SOME CRAZY INVENTION IN THIS BIG OLD PLACE OF HIS! THE GUY'S GOT NOTHIN' BETTER TO DO!
GOT PLENTY OF MONEY, EH, JOE?
A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!
M-83

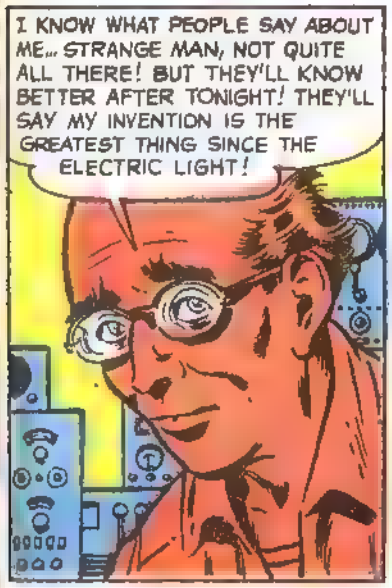
A MILLIONAIRE! LISTEN, HE'S GOT SO MUCH DOUGH, HE KEEPS A FEW THOUSAND AROUND, RIGHT IN THAT CELLAR WORKSHOP, JUST SO'S HE CAN HAVE READY CASH IN HIS SAFE TO BUY PARTS FOR HIS NEW GADGETS!
WHAT ABOUT THIS SAFE? DO WE MAKE HIM OPEN IT?

NO.. THIS MAID I TOOK OUT ON A DATE, SAYS MULFORD'S GOT PUSH BUTTONS ALL OVER THE PLACE! IF HE JUST TOUCHES ONE OF THEM, THE POLICE'LL COME ON THE RUN! WE'LL HAVE TO SNEAK UP ON HIM! LET'S TRY THIS WINDOW, WALLY!
1


NO OTHER WAY IN, JOE? BACK DOOR OR SOMETHIN'?
NO..THIS MAID SAYS HE LOCKS THE DOORS AT NIGHT, SCARED SOMEBODY WILL STEAL HIS INVENTIONS! THIS WINDOW'S OPENED!

MEANWHILE, THE ECCENTRIC FRANK MULFORD WAS HARD AT WORK IN HIS HUGE CELLAR SHOP...

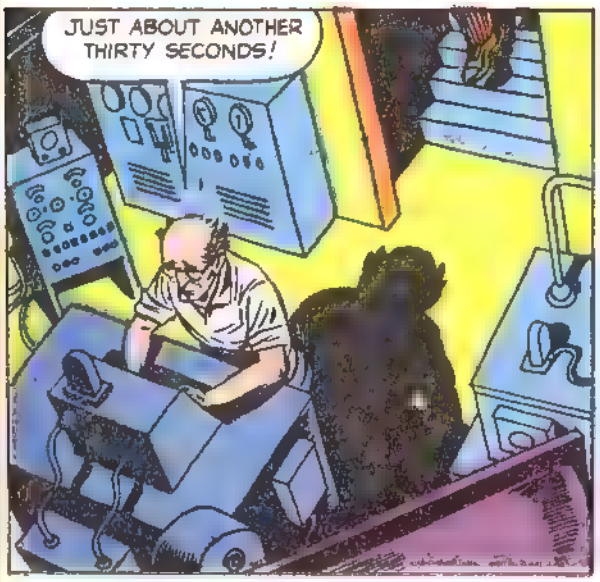


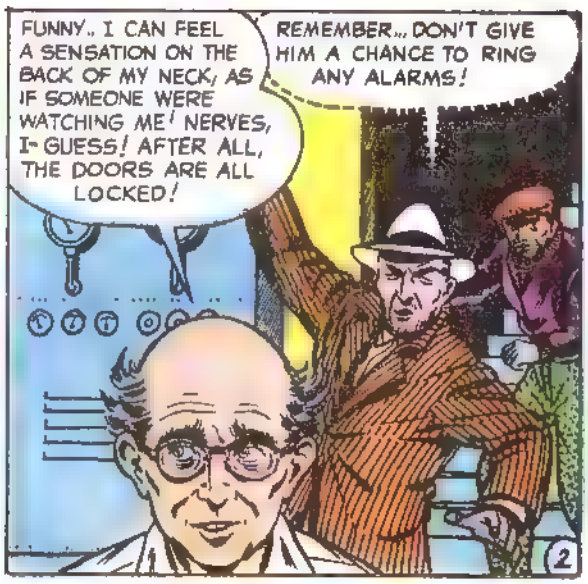

I KNOW WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT ME.. STRANGE MAN, NOT QUITE ALL THERE! BUT THEY'LL KNOW BETTER AFTER TONIGHT! THEY'LL SAY MY INVENTION IS THE GREATEST THING SINCE THE ELECTRIC LIGHT!

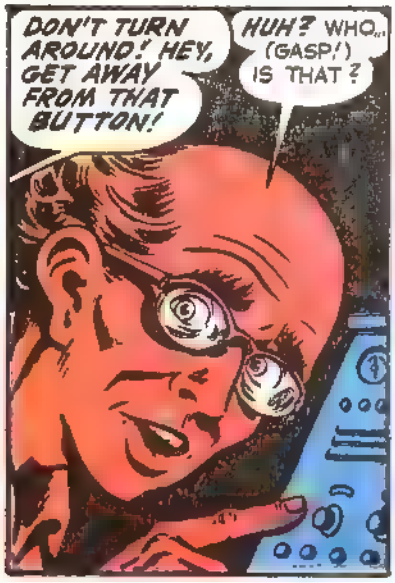
MEANWHILE, JOE AND WALLY GAINED ENTRANCE TO THE DARKENED MANSION, AND CREPT STEALTHILY, IF UNCERTAINLY, ALONG THE MAIN FLOOR...

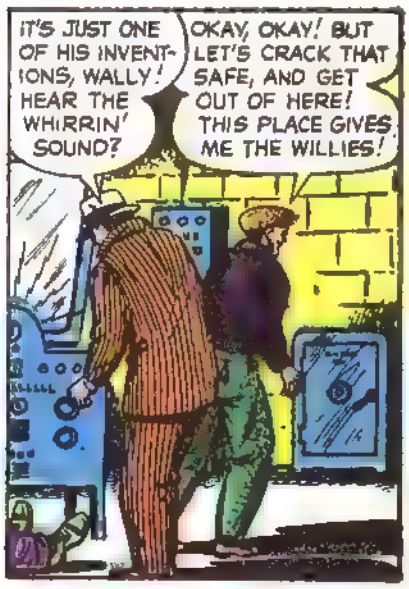
I THOUGHT YOU GOT THE LAYOUT OF THIS PLACE?
I COULDN'T COME RIGHT OUT AND ASK THAT MAID THE WAY TO THE CELLAR! DON'T WORRY SO MUCH!

THEY WANDERED ABOUT FOR A FEW MINUTES, TRYING DOOR AFTER DOOR! FINALLY...

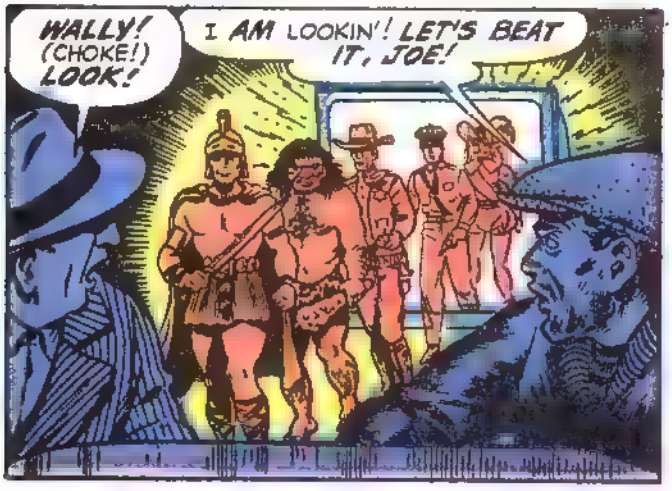



FUNNY.. I CAN FEEL A SENSATION ON THE BACK OF MY NECK, AS IF SOMEONE WERE WATCHING ME! NERVES, I- GUESS! AFTER ALL, THE DOORS ARE ALL LOCKED!
REMEMBER... DON'T GIVE HIM A CHANCE TO RING ANY ALARMS!

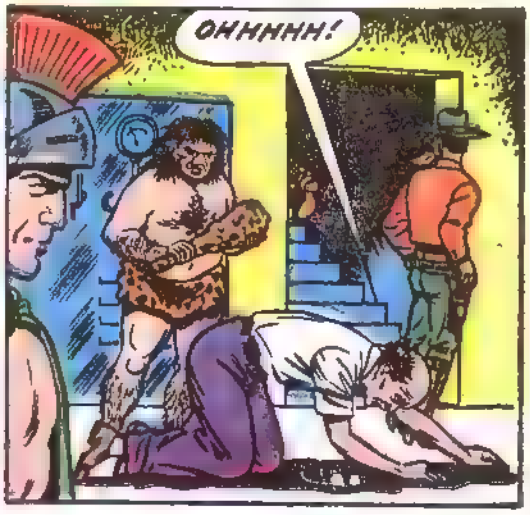



IT'S JUST ONE OF HIS INVENTIONS, WALLY! HEAR THE WHIRRIN' SOUND?
OKAY, OKAY! BUT LET'S CRACK THAT SAFE, AND GET OUT OF HERE! THIS PLACE GIVES ME THE WILLIES!

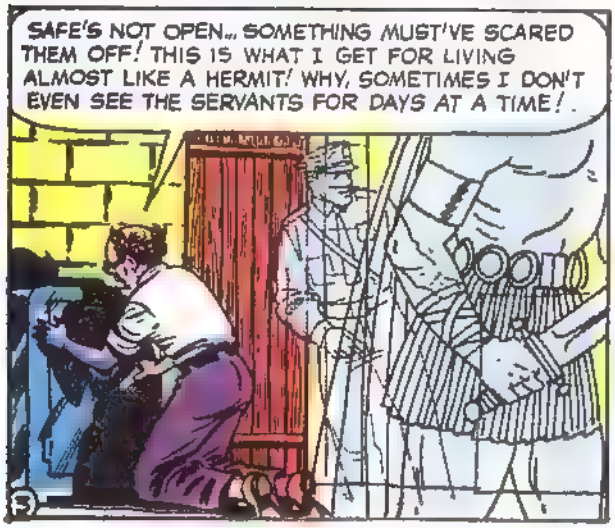
WALLY WENT TO WORK ON THE SAFE WITH EXPERT FINGERS, BUT SUDDENLY THE BABBLE OF VOICES DREW THEIR ATTENTION TO THE GREAT WALL-SIZED SCREEN THAT WAS PART OF MULFORD'S INVENTION...



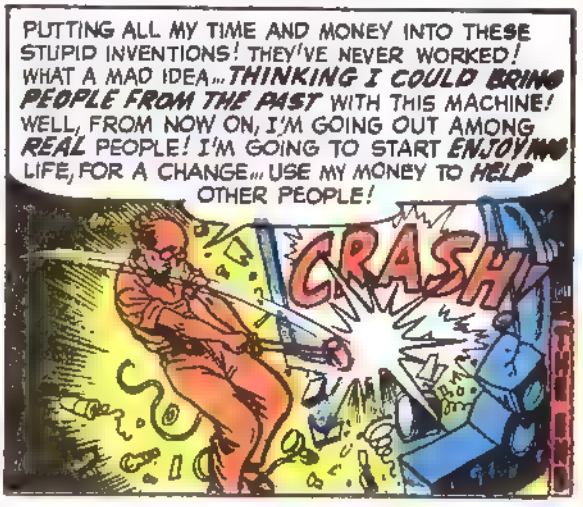
JOE AND WALLY LIT OUT WITH THE SPEED OF A PAIR OF FRIGHTENED DEER! FRANK MULFORD WAS JUST COMING TO...



MULFORD DIDN'T SEE THE FADING MEN ABOUT HIM! HE WAS ONLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE ROBBERS...


SAFE'S NOT OPEN... SOMETHING MUST'VE SCARED THEM OFF! THIS IS WHAT I GET FOR LIVING ALMOST LIKE A HERMIT! WHY, SOMETIMES I DON'T EVEN SEE THE SERVANTS FOR DAYS AT A TIME!

IN A FIT OF RAGE AT HIS OWN FOOLISH WAY OF LIFE, FRANK MULFORD BROUGHT A SLEDGE HAMMER FROM A STOREROOM...


PUTTING ALL MY TIME AND MONEY INTO THESE STUPID INVENTIONS! THEY'VE NEVER WORKED! WHAT A MAD IDEA... THINKING I COULD BRING PEOPLE FROM THE PAST WITH THIS MACHINE! WELL, FROM NOW ON, I'M GOING OUT AMONG REAL PEOPLE! I'M GOING TO START ENJOYING LIFE, FOR A CHANGE... USE MY MONEY TO HELP OTHER PEOPLE!
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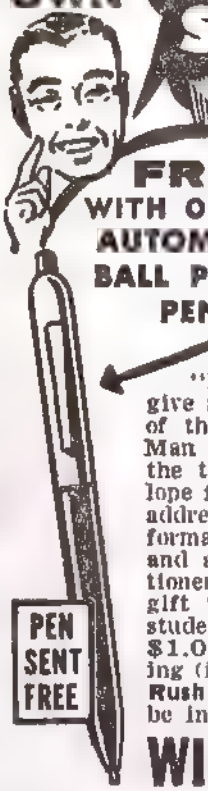

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And so, early the next day, Colin trudged to school. Young Mune was to arrive earlier than the rest, and so there was no one else in sight when Colin arrived. What Colin did see, however, in the field near the school, was a round circular platform. And sure enough, there was a strange boy jumping about it.

"Mune," he called. "Pleased to meet you. I'm Professor Colin."

The boy looked at him questioningly, and Colin shook his head in dismay.

"Dear me," he said, "this will be worse than I thought. Not only have your travels taken you away from formal education, but your diet has been neglected. You're thin as a rail."

The young stranger looked startled.

"Come with me," Colin commanded in his most authoritative voice.

The boy showed no signs of obeying, so Colin took him by the hand and ushered him toward the school. When the boy tried to hang back, Colin looked down at him and scolded.

"You must listen to your teacher, Mune. And before classes it is unwise to play in the field with odd rocks or whatever junk you may find there. I saw you jumping about that round platform. Your hands are not clean. Don't let it happen again!"

It annoyed Colin terribly to feel the youngster pull his hand as if he wanted to run away.

Colin forcefully led him into his office and closed the door.

"Another thing I must take you to task for," he insisted, "is the way you're dressed. That suit is a far cry from the uniform the boys at Bright wear. It may be a playtime costume for you, but it's hardly right to wear an outfit like that to school."

At this point, the young boy looked angrily at Colin. He whipped out a strange object from his pocket and brandished it at Colin.

Colin smiled and deftly took it from his hand.

"I'm used to disarming young boys of their toys during school hours," Colin said smugly. "What is this nonsensical toy? Bless me, it's one of those imitation new-fangled space guns.

I really don't approve of them as toys at all. Now sit down."

As Colin directed the boy into a chair, he still held the toy in his hand, and the youngster immediately obeyed him. At this point, there was a loud noise outside the school. Looking through the window, Colin saw the state troopers drive up . . . the militia . . . why, it looked like the entire army!

"I do wish they'd tell me when we're going to have a formal visiting delegation," Colin said with annoyance.

The next second, the door of his office was thrown open. In stalked Plum, greatly agitated, followed by the military officers.

"Thank goodness you're safe!" cried Plum. "There's an angry Martian on the loose. Our secret service tracked his saucer landing in this area. The Mars people want him taken into custody, and they alerted us."

Colin was about to say that he was merely working with his new pupil and had no time for such nonsense. But all at once, the Chief of the Military slapped him on the shoulder.

"Your bravery shall be rewarded!" he shouted. "Look, men . . . this courageous teacher captured and disarmed the Martian with his own ray gun!"

Mune wasn't Mune at all, but a Martian! Colin would have fainted if he hadn't had to stand there while the photographers took his picture.

Colin was made a hero! Later Plum informed him that Young Mune was delayed in arriving, and Colin deserved a holiday for himself.

The Governor's car was made available to drive Colin through the town. Colin sat there smiling, with Gertrude beside him.

"I'm proud of you, Colin," she sighed. "You risked your life to prove to me that you could do something brave and romantic!"

"I'm glad you feel that way," Colin blushed, "but when we return home, I must do some research."

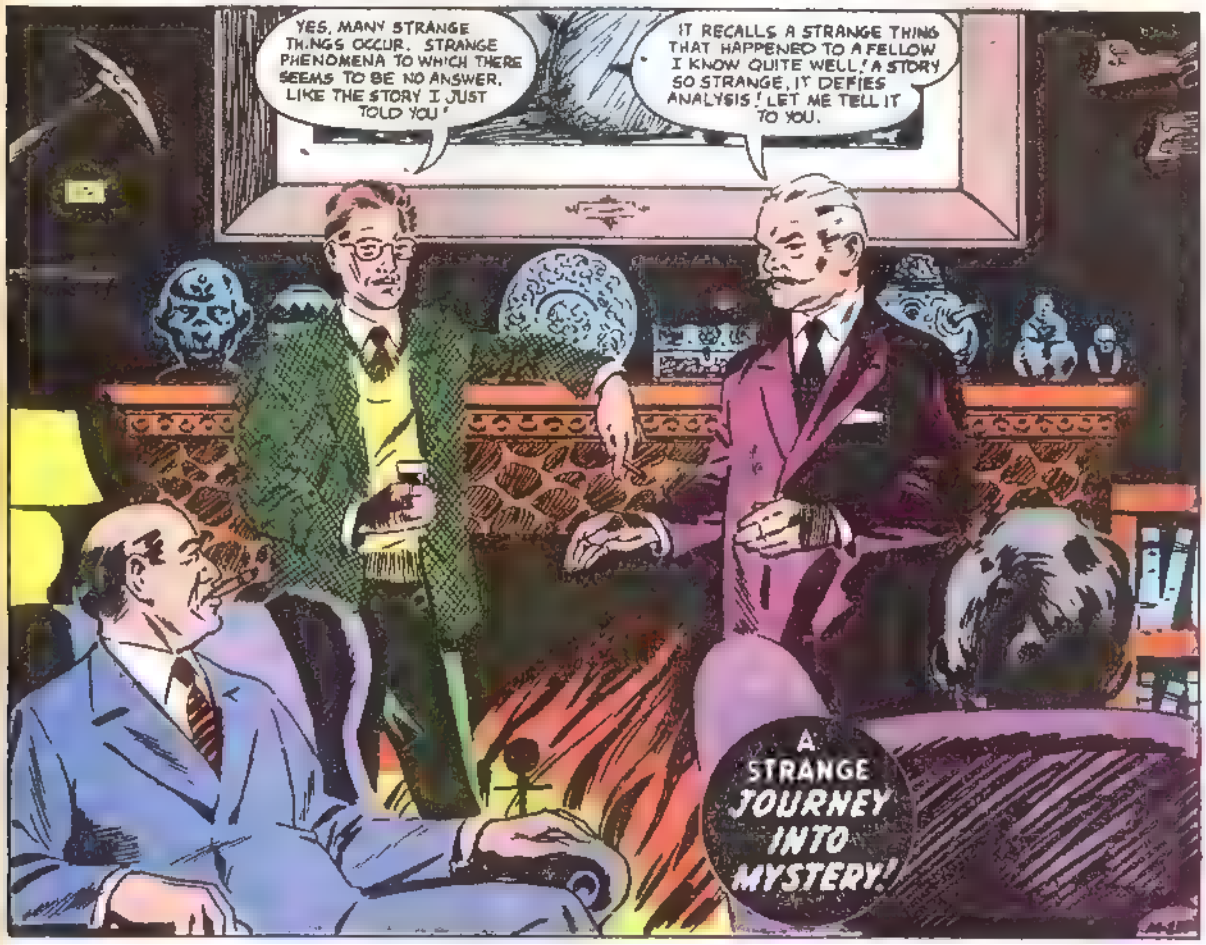
"Oh, let me help you," Gertrude pleaded. "I'll never again think that you're old hat."

"You couldn't say that," admitted Colin, adjusting the brim of his new chapeau. "You might say I'm old suit, but my hat is brand *new!*"

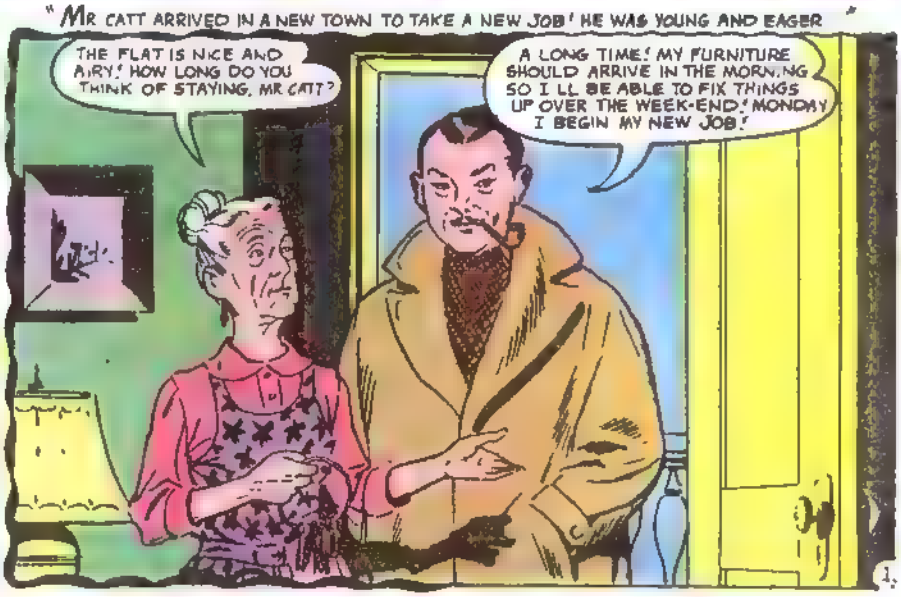
THE END K-382

THEY SAT AROUND THE FIRE IN THEIR CLUB AND SPOKE OF STRANGE OCCURRENCES THAT HAD HAPPENED TO THEM OR THE PEOPLE THEY KNEW... THOSE STRANGE, LITTLE INCIDENTS THAT BORDER ON THE SUPERNATURAL! THEN THE STORY OF MR. CATT WAS TOLD, A STORY SO OFF BEAT THAT IT WAS ALMOST BEYOND BELIEF...ALMOST!

The CURIOSITY of MR. CATT!


YES, MANY STRANGE THINGS OCCUR. STRANGE PHENOMENA TO WHICH THERE SEEMS TO BE NO ANSWER. LIKE THE STORY I JUST TOLD YOU'
IT RECALLS A STRANGE THING THAT HAPPENED TO A FELLOW I KNOW QUITE WELL! A STORY SO STRANGE, IT DEFIES ANALYSIS! LET ME TELL IT TO YOU.
A STRANGE JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY!

IT HAPPENED A LONG TIME AGO WHEN THIS FELLOW WAS YOUNG! WE'LL CALL HIM. WELL, MR. CATT' YOU RECALL THE OLD SAYING ABOUT "CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT"? WELL, IT WAS CURIOSITY THAT WAS HIS UNDOING


"MR CATT ARRIVED IN A NEW TOWN TO TAKE A NEW JOB! HE WAS YOUNG AND EAGER"
THE FLAT IS NICE AND AIRY! HOW LONG DO YOU THINK OF STAYING, MR CATT?
A LONG TIME! MY FURNITURE SHOULD ARRIVE IN THE MORNING SO I'LL BE ABLE TO FIX THINGS UP OVER THE WEEK-END! MONDAY I BEGIN MY NEW JOB!

"He was busy that week-end getting settled!"

FRANK MASTERS, MY NEW BOSS SEEMS LIKE A SWELL GUY! THIS NEW JOB HAS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVANCEMENT!

"Monday night he came home from his first day in his new job! He felt good! He could relax! He stood in front of the big picture window that gave him a fine view of the town."

"And then, a strange thing happened! Suddenly, for a moment, the lights dimmed and as they did, the window seemed to cloud over."

THAT'S FUNNY

"And in the clouded window, he saw the reflection of the room behind him. But it was different! It looked strange. The furniture was not his... the arrangement was different."

THE SAME ROOM... BUT ALL **CHANGED!** THIS IS VERY ODD...

THE ROOM ITSELF HASN'T CHANGED! MY FURNISHINGS, PICTURES.. EVERYTHING I BROUGHT WITH ME! BUT IN THE WINDOW, THE REFLECTION IS..

.DIFFERENT! OH IT'S PROBABLY JUST A TRICK OF LIGHT OR MY IMAGINATION! ALL MENTAL! I'VE BEEN KEYED UP WITH THE NEW JOB AND ALL!

"It seemed a logical explanation for an illogical occurrence! But when it happened night after night, uneasiness and curiosity replaced logic."

THIS IS BEGINNING TO GET ME! THERE MUST BE A LOGICAL ANSWER TO SUCH A PHENOMENON.. AND I'D BETTER FIND IT, BEFORE I GO CRAZY

"THE FIRST LINK IN A CHAIN OF STRANGE CIRCUMSTANCES WAS FORGED BY THE WORDS OF A NEIGHBOR..."

MRS. MAITLAND DIDN'T TELL YOU? WHY, THE FLAT YOU RENT WAS FORMERLY RENTED BY CORY FANTON THE MURDERER! HE KILLED HIS BOSS IN THAT FLAT! YOU MUST HAVE READ ABOUT HIS EXECUTION... MONDAY NIGHT A WEEK AGO!

THAT WAS THE NIGHT I FIRST SAW THE STRANGE REFLECTION!

"MORBID CURIOSITY AND A GROWING FEAR DROVE HIM TO MAKE FURTHER INQUIRIES."

SURE I KNEW HIM! HABITS? WELL, HE HAD A HABIT OF RUBBING HIS CHIN... AND HE SPOKE IN SHORT SENTENCES! GRINNED A LOT, TOO!

"HE LOCATED THE SHOP THAT HAD BOUGHT THE MURDERER'S FURNITURE! HE NEVER KNEW WHAT MORBID URGE MADE HIM PURCHASE IT!"

YES, I'LL BUY ALL OF IT! DELIVER IT TO MY FLAT AND TAKE MY OWN FURNITURE OUT! I'LL SHOW YOUR MEN HOW I WANT IT PLACED!

JONS

MASONS' FURNITURE

"THE FURNITURE WAS DELIVERED THE NEXT DAY!"

NO, PUT THE BIG LOUNGE CHAIR OVER HERE. IT MUST BE JUST RIGHT.

"NOW, AT NIGHT, THE REFLECTION AND THE ACTUAL ROOM BEHIND WERE JUST THE SAME..."

I DON'T KNOW WHY I DID IT! IT'S AS THOUGH SOMETHING UNSEEN URGED ME ON! I ALMOST FEEL AS THOUGH I'M NOT ALONE.. AS THOUGH SOME UNSEEN THING IS LIVING HERE WITH ME AND EXERTING SOME STRANGE POWER OVER ME.

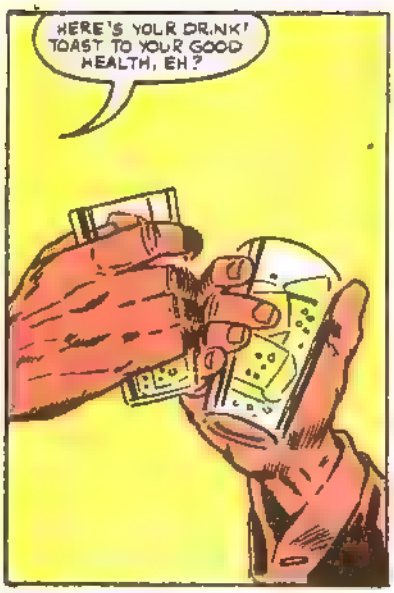
"SLOWLY, GRADUALLY, MR. CATT BEGAN TO CHANGE! HE DEVELOPED SMALL, NEW HABITS ...STROKING HIS CHIN WAS ONE! HE GRINNED A LOT, TOO..."

HAVE TO INVITE MY BOSS, FRANK MASTERS, UP FOR A DRINK! YES, TOMORROW NIGHT I'LL DO THAT!

"THE NEXT EVENING, MASTERS WAS DELAYED BY A QUICK AND FURIOUS STORM THAT HAD COME RUSHING DOWN FROM THE NORTH!"

SOME STORM, EH? A DRINK'LL SURE DO GOOD!

COMING UP!



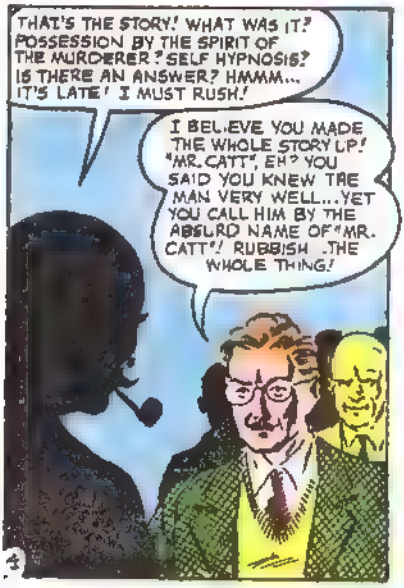
"SUDDEN THUNDER CRASHED! LIGHTNING SPLIT THE SKY. AND THE BIG PICTURE WINDOW WAS SHATTERED BY THE STORM INTO A THOUSAND GLITTERING PIECES "

"IT CAME IN A RUSH TO HIM .. WHAT HE HAD BEEN ABOUT TO DO.. "

BOY, THAT SURE SHATTERED! SAY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE! THERE'S A SPOT JUST DOWN THE STREET...I'LL BUY YOU A DRINK! I NEED ONE MYSELF!

"ON HIS WAY OUT, HE KNOCKED AT THE LANDLADY'S DOOR.. "

HERE'S THE KEY TO MY FLAT! GET RID OF EVERYTHING IN IT. . SELL IT, ANYTHING YOU WANT! I'M GOING TO A HOTEL...AND I WON'T BE BACK...NOT EVER AGA N...


THAT'S THE STORY! WHAT WAS IT? POSSESSION BY THE SPIRIT OF THE MURDERER? SELF HYPNOSIS? IS THERE AN ANSWER? HMMM... IT'S LATE! I MUST RUSH!
I BELIEVE YOU MADE THE WHOLE STORY UP! "MR. CATT", EH? YOU SAID YOU KNEW THE MAN VERY WELL...YET YOU CALL HIM BY THE ABSURD NAME OF "MR. CATT"! RUBBISH .THE WHOLE THING!

THE STORY TELLER LAUGHED AND LEFT...

IT JUST STRUCK ME...HIS NAME IS FELINUS, ISN'T IT? FELINE... CAT...MR. FEL NUS, MR CATT! AND A MAN GENERALLY CONSIDERS HE KNOWS HIMSELF VERY WELL!

MORE THAN A COINCIDENCE, ISN'T IT? WHAT BUSINESS IS HE IN?
WHY, I BELIEVE HE OWNS A STRING OF SHOPS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY .. CURIOSITY SHOPS!
THE END

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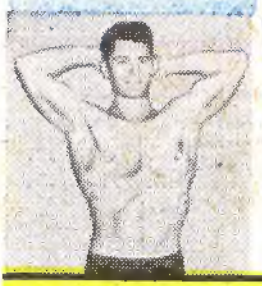

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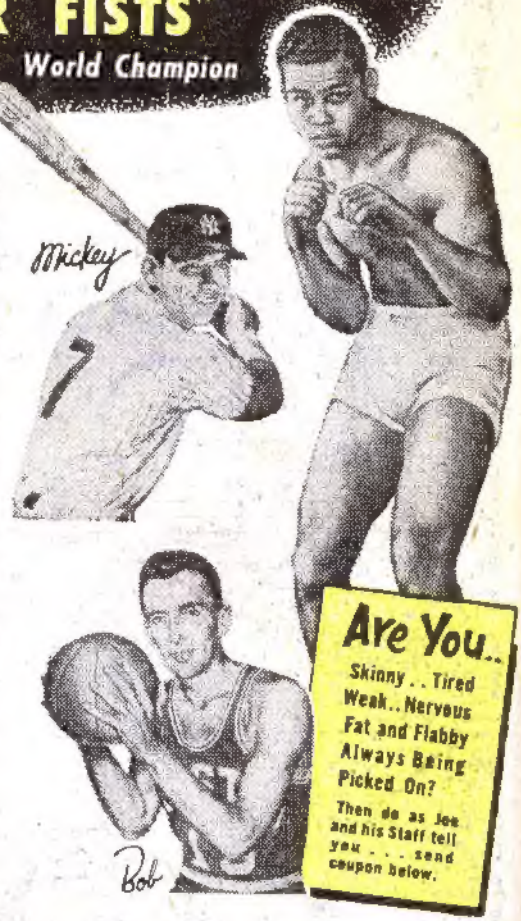
Extra! I'll send you my "Fight Secrets" for only 10c—if you'll write today. So . . . send me the coupon below right away!"

Sincerely,

Joe Louis



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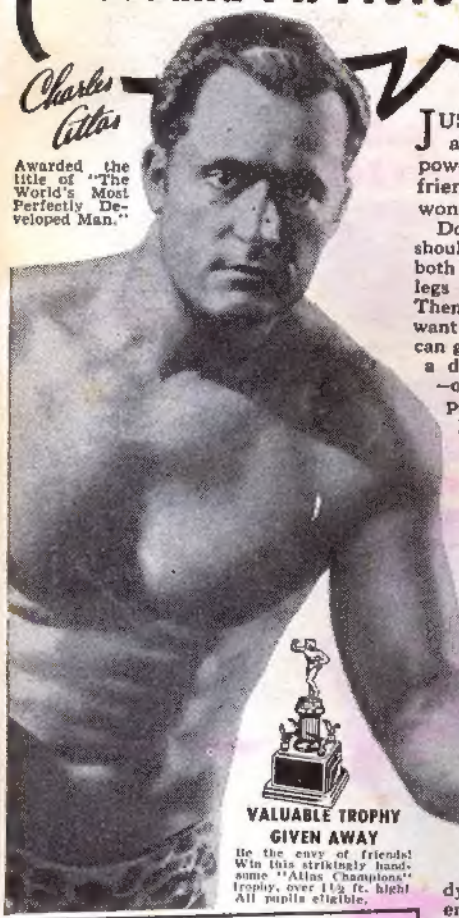

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JUST tell me where you want it—and I'll add SOLID INCHES of powerful new muscle SO FAST your friends will grow bug-eyed with wonder!

Do you want me to broaden your shoulders—put trip-hammer power in both your arms—make your legs two pillars of strength? Then just check what you want below. I'll prove you can get it in just 15 minutes a day—in your own home—or it won't cost you a penny!

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Send me absolutely FREE a copy of your famous book "Everlasting Health and Strength"—32 pages, crammed with photographs, answers to vital health questions, and valuable advice. I understand this book is mine to keep and sending for it does not obligate me in any way.

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☐ If under 14 years of age check for Booklet A.

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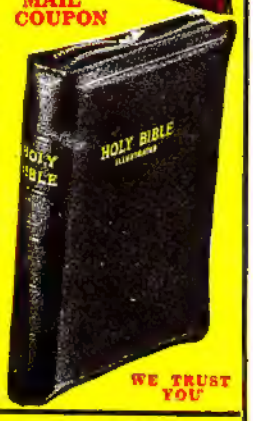

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